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MULTI-TASKING ON

YOUR MACHINE



We put MultiTOS through every conceivable test - discover if it lives up to expectations on page 37

MMINGS 2

Even if you just buy one game this year, Lemmings 2 has to be it! We tell you exactly why on page 66

CAN YOU SEE THE LIGHT?

WHAT IS THE GAMES INDUSTRY PLAYING AT?



We find out what the major players in the games industry really think of the ST market page 27



in this great Gulf War simulation Create vour very own ravtraced

pictures with our step by step guides and Cover Disk program - page 19

SCREENED THIS MONTH

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Hill Street Bluespage 78 Metallic Power page 50 MiG-29 Super Fulcrum .page 82

Operation Stealth Reach for the Skies War In The Gulf page 75



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ADVERTISING Ground Floor, Rayner House, 23 Higher Hillgate Stockport SK1 3ER Fax: 061 476 3002

UK Distribution Future Publishing D 0225 442244

Worldwide Distribution MMC Ltd = 0483 211678

FUTURE PUBLISHING. Somerton, Somerset TA11 STR Fex 0458 74378

ST FORMAT I ISSUE 49 AUGUST 1993

VELCOME TO ST FORMAT! Who was it who said that the

summer is traditionally a slack time in the computer industry? Perhaps nobody famous, but it's certainly a commonly-held belief, and one that, as far as STF is con-

cerned, is totally erroneous, This month has seen the release of some of the best ST games ever - FORMAT Gold winners Lemmings 2 on page 66 (which is only the second ST game to achieve a rating of 96%), Isher 2 (page 70) and the excellent War in the Gulf loage 75), it has also seen the release of the Januar Atari's 64-hit console (see page 7), and the long-awaited multi-tasking system, MultiTOS, which we examine in detail on page 37. There's also been a huge increase in the interest in raytracing programs - we show you how to start creating your masterpieces on page 19 and even give you the chance to win yourself £100.

There's also plenty of positive news from the games industry (page 27), plenty of hints and tips including a special feature on buying by mail order and over 25 pages of new reviews. Enjoy!

. FEATURES

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Ateri launch the incredible new 64-bit console.

Exploit every last kilebyte with our guides.

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is this inkiet printer anything special?

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All those names and numbers you 106 PIXEL games and a 40s

PAINTING If you've sent us your art. you could be the star of this month's gallery



Chaos Engine - fully playable level of this FORMAT Gold-winning manic blast.



Raytracer - create

beautiful photo-realis-

tic pictures with the

"Look left, No. right Outekt Shoot Angh! What's



ultimate in raytracers. S Ves. It's that old chestnut -Pac Man. But, and this is the niever bit, it was created with POV Revisece

■ Squish - try and avoid getting squashed beyond recognition over 40 levels.

> Il This is the type of game which you get annoyed at, walk away from it, and then sit down for just one last go



- Disk Space discover fascinating facts and figures about your hard and floppy drives.
- MIDI files professional quality MIDI files from the Realfeel Groove Library.

TURN TO PAGE 12 FOR FULL DETAILS!



12 COVER DISK



REVIEW: VGA MONO MONITOR

OPTICAL DRIVE Save more files with this pricey drive.

50 SURSCRIBE Guarantee that next year will be a winner.

52 BACK ISSUES

Order all the STFs you may have missed. 55 REVIEW: CRAZY SOUNDS

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from US Gold

Street Fighter 2 leads ST sales surge

by Rob Mead

treet Fighter 2. the world's most famous beat-'emup has sold a phenomenal 22,000 copies on the ST, despite the games industry's negative additude towards Atari.

Bridgett Hirst from US Gold says the company are very pleased the game has done so well on the ST: "This has made US Gold aware there is a market out there."

She attributes a large portion of Street Fighter 2's success to the high quality of the game and the marketing muscle behind it, which

"It proves that when there's enough hype about a game it can sell on the ST*

Bridgett Hirst, US Gold

effectively turned the FORMAT Gold winning beat-'em-up into a household name. "It proves that when there's enough hype about a game it can sell on the ST," she said. Microprose are equally con-

vinced about the ST's future -

I The success of Street Fighter 2 has changed the attitudes of some software houses towards the ST.

they've already managed to sell over 20,000 copies of Civilization on the ST since its release in March. An incredible 50,000 copies of Formula One Grand Prix have also been sold since its release last year. The company told ST FORMAT, "There's still a market out there for high quality ST games and that's what we're in the business of producing."

Such confident statements from US Gold and Microprose reflect what people in the games industry feel about ST sales - that high quality games, backed up with plenty of advertising are always going to sell well. Renegade Software have also had some notable successes over the last couple of years with games like Fire and Ice. Magic Pockets and, especially, Sensible Soccer which has sold over 28,500 copies on the ST alone.

Other companies like Daze and Gremlin Graphics are reluctant to give out sales figures, but are both extremely pleased with sales

of games like Ishar and Premier

Manager on the ST. According to Daze's Cliff Guy, their main problem is that they specialise in roleplaying games which are inevitably

"High quality games backed up with plenty of advertising are always going to sell well on the ST"

going to have lower sales than mass market releases like Street Fighter 2. Guy reckons a good game for Daze would sell about 10,000 copies - which is still a substantial amount. Dorian Bloch of Gallup - the polisters responsible for compiling the ST FORMAT chart - also reports an increase in ST games sales from 6% to 10% of total sales, largely thanks to the recent release of quality games like Chaos Engine, B17 Flying Fortress and Lemmings 2 - see page 10 for more details.

Despite such strong and encouraging evidence Virgin Games remain unconvinced about the potential of the ST market. For them sales on games like Jimmy White's Whirlwind Snooker and Pool have been "disastrous," according to sources close to the company, although they are predicting massive sales for Dino Dini's Goal when it is released later on this year.

With great games like Street Fighter 2, Civilization and Sensible Soccer proving the ST's worth as a games playing platform, it's only a matter of time before the software houses are going to realise that the ST is not going to lie down and die quietly just yet.

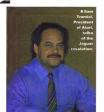
Turn to page 27 to find out exactly what the rest of the games industry really thinks about Atari and the ST.

> retease in March. Microprose's Civilization has seld 20,000 copies on the ST proving that there's still an ST market out there









Atari launch their "billion dollar baby"

by Paula Richards

he Jaguar, Atari's 64-bit home entertainment system, has been launched the summer CES held in Chicago. The machine, which is four times faster than a standard SI and the 16-bit consoles which presently dominate the market, is expected by Atari to become the market leader in the new cycle of 64-bit machines.

Bob Brodie, Director of Communications at Atari US describes the Jaguar as "a billion dollar baby" and is confident that Atari will be doing everything right this time to ensure maximum sales.

They recognise that to get ahead in a market presently dominated by huge companies with an equally huge budget, they need to "Jeapfrog the competition," in

terms of value for money and superb technology. Sam Yramiel, President of Atari, takes huge pride in the technological advancements the machine makes, "The Jaguar system will revolutionise the state of home entertainment as we see it today, the idea of a 64-bit system is earth-shattering."

The machine certainly has impressive technical specifications impressive technical specifications—6.4-bit technology, a palette of 18.7 million colours to give 2-to-clours to give 2-to-clours a Digital Signal Processor chip specificatly for the 18-bit stereo CD quality sound and the ability to expand it in all sort of directions, whether your interest be to tisten to music via digital out tape, view your holiday snaps on Photo-CD or connect to modern

All this for less than \$200! To make sure of their position, particularly in view of their past mistakes and the slow economy, Atari plan a very competitive price point. Peter Walker, Atari's UK Press Officer commented, "The Jaguar will be aggressively priced to grab a

"We have a huge technological lead with the Jaguar that we must take

advantage of*

large volume of sales early to establish brand leadership - the US price is going to be around the \$200 mark including a game and power pad controller."

Games will run on MegaCarts and although the price for these hasn't been confirmed, Walker confirmed that they would probably be in line with the aggressive pricing policy of the Jaguar – "around the £20 mark."

There is also to be a very strong promotion campaign initially centred in New York and San Francisco, widening to the rest of the US in time for Christmass and reaching Europe sarry in 1984. Walker explained, "We are going to mount a massive sed-resting early in 1984. Walker explained, "We say going to mount a massive sed-resting campaign in the UK, with a massive financial investment for the UK market. Every marketing option will assess We have a huge stephological lead with the Jaguar that we must take advantage of."

Pressed further about what form the promotion would take, whether, for example, there was to be an official Atari branding character, Walker would only say. "That

大

MICROPROSE AT WAR

8 Pilot 12 different aircraft from the entire history of war aviation in Dogflight, a combat sim with a difference.

Flight sim specialists Microprose have announced details of two new air combat games for your ST.

Dogfight enables you to chose from 12 different aircraft, from World Wer One Sogwith Camels to hi-sche 1548 Fighting Fal-cons, and engage the enemy in a finger-evite/hing dogfight. You can even chose planes from different periods and make them battle or can you imagine a Spiffer locked in combat with a Sae Harrier Lab game also features six combat scenarios which enable you to fiv real-rains which enable you to fiv real-

istic missions in the Falklands or with the Red Baron. Gunship 2000 is a helicopter

simulation which enables you to fly up to five helicopters at once in dering missions over central Europe and the Persian Gulf. The game features training, single and multiple helicopter modes as well as a mission editor for creating your own scenarios.

Microprose have given no firm release dates as yet but both games are expected to be released later this year and they are set to retail of \$34.99 each.



control of the latest in air war technology with Gunship 2000, a new helicopter sim from Microprose.

SONY TAKE OVER CREATORS Sony Electronic Publishing have act as the base for the European

acquired Lemmings 1 and 2 creators Psygnosis, one of the biggest software developers and publishers in the UK.

The deal marks the Japanese electronics giant's entry into the European leisure market and will

act as the base for the complement management team.

Mark Blewitt, Marketing Manager of Psygnosis, explained that it wouldn't actually make much of a difference to the ST market - either positively or negatively - but that it did mean that Psygnosis would

page

LEAPING AHEAD OF THE COMPETITION

The capabilities of the Jaguar are reportedly quite amazing - not surprising considering the incredible technology that's behind it. The heart of the system is Atari's own reduced instruction set (RISC) processor which is a rela-tively new type of processor which uses simple, fast internal instructions to process data rather than the more complex instructions used by traditional microprocessors compiles instructions used by fraditional inferoprocessors. So, as well as operating four times faster than any con-sole presently available, it has a 24-bit palette which can supply over 16.7 million colours. It also features shaded polygons – like those in the graphically stunning shoot-'em-up Starwing on the Super Nintendo – which can be

em-up Starwing on the Super Finiterior - Which can be generated while the game is running. It also has the ability to perform real-time texture mapping.

Like the Falcon, the Jaguar has a Digital Signal Processor although this time it's being used specifically to produce 16-bit stereo CD quality sound. To make the most of the "multi-media" applications the DSP can

process other sounds and human voices at the same time. You can also expand the Jaguar since it inc 32-bit expansion port enabling you to connect your hine into cable and telephone networks - and it has a digital signal processing port so you can use moderns and connect your machine to digital audio accessories like DAT players. On top of all this there's a double speed CD DAT prayers. Un top of all this there's a double speed CD unit that is being developed which you'll be able to use for games, audio CDs. including those with graphics and Kodak Photo CDs.—the Photo CD compatibility is to be built into the Jaguar CD-ROM.

Atari have recently licensed Cinepak - advanced video compression technology – from SuperMac Technology Inc. This software stores video footage on CD-ROM at very high compression rates enabling full motion video to be used in games and other CD-ROM applications. Cinepak is used by Apple for their QuickTime standard known as Apple Compact Video

is an attractive option that we are considering... the marketing teams are working on several ideas."

yet, however, no developer has received a fully-finished machine they just have the innards housed in a basic case; it's very much a

Games, more games

There are likely to be around half a dozen titles available for the Jaquar when it first comes out although there are plenty more games under development. Even though software developers are bound by nondisclosure agreements, we can reveal that Jeff Minter, best known for his interest in llamas and the creator of Liamazao for the Falcon. has had a Jaguar since the end of last year and is very enthusiastic about its capabilities.

As well as games from third party publishers. Atari are also planning to release versions of Cybermorph, Allen vs Predator, Jaquar Formula One Racing, Battlezone 2000 and Tempest 2000. As

"The Jaguar will be aggressively priced to grab a large volume of sales early" Peter Walker

cosmetic consideration, according to Brodie, although it is described as having a "futuristic" design. Watch this space because as

soon as we have anything visual we can show you, we will... until then, roll on the autumn.



Jeff Minter is one of the developere for the Januar - he's so keen on the machine he even reads all about it when he's taking things easy.

SNIPPETS

Falcon bother

ot sector, file allocation tabin

HiSoft take on Microdeal

On-Line to the world

Fractal mode

9. cell = 071 377 6294.

Stand corrected

COLIN GOES ONE STEP BEYOND

Cheesy hero Colin Curly gets the sequel treatment in One Step Beyond, Ocean's latest Jicence release.

The hero of FORMAT Gold game Push Over returns for more romps around a puzzle-filled maze and promises to include lots of ingame advertising for a well-known cheesy snack. One Step Beyond features 12 new platforms, each with 99 levels, and is set for release at the end of July, price £25,99, Phone Ocean # 061 832 6633 for more information



Calle addiction to com snacks gets him sucked into his computer in One Step Beyond. Ocean's new ourrie, eman

#The here of FORMAT Gold game Push Over makes a comeback in a nuzzle-filled maze in Ocean's One Step Beyond.

OF LEMMINGS

have a bit more money to spend on w developments and projects. Psygnosis are still going to be ing games under their own name but are also planning to work on video games and CD-ROM titles for Sony's game division, Sony Imagesoft. Following the recent Queen's Award for Export 1993, Jonathan Ellis, Managing Director of Psygnosis, thinks that, "the alliance Psygnosis, thinks that. The amance will enable us to benefit from each other's strengths and talents." Psygnosis are heavily into devel-oping CD-ROM titles for the Sega Mega CD, IBM PC compatibles and

the Macintosh. It also seems more than likely that Psygnosis may be considering developing CD-ROM titles for the Falcon in the near future. The Falcon and MultiTOS are CD-ROM compatible and as such offer great potential for developers like Psygnosis to take advantage of.

THE TOP TWENTY

Pos	Last Pos	Game	Publisher	Price	STF Rating
		Sensible Soccer 92/93	Renegade	£25.99	
2.		Chaos Engine	Renegade	£25 99	94%
3.		B17 Flying Fortress	Microprose	£34 99	87%
		Premier Manager	Gremlin	£25.99	85%
5.		Lemmings 2	Psygnosis	£29.99	96%
6.		Street Fighter 2	US Gold	£27.99	91%
		Pirates	Kixx XL	£12.99	74%
8.		World Class Cricket	Audiogenic	£29.99	85%
9.		First Division Manager	Codemasters	£7.99	64%
		Civilization	Microprose	£34.99	92%
		Prince of Persia	Hit Squad	£7.99	90%
12.		F19 Stealth Fighter	Kixx XL	£16,99	96%
13.	(20)	Future Wars	Kixx XL	£12.99	87%
14.	(18)	The Simpsons	Hit Squad	€9.99	74%
15.		Spellbound Dizzy	Codemasters	£7.99	
16.		Indiana Jones: Graphic Adventure	Kixx XL	£14.99	
17.		WWF Wrestlemania	Hit Squad	£9.99	63%
18.		Jimmy White's Whirlwind Snooker	Virgin	£29.99	94%
19,	(13)	Treasure Island Dizzy	Codemasters	£4 99	82%
20.		Formula One Grand Prix	Microprose	£34.99	81%



Chaos Engine and Lemmings 2 zoom straight into the top five this month, but fail to grab the top slot thanks to a surge in support for Sensible Soccer. Surprisingly, Sleepwalker has dropped right out of the chart, after debuting least month at number 17. US Gold continue to make a strong showing with their mid-priced Kixx XL label with Pirates, Indiana Jones and F19 Steath Fighter all receiving strong chart placings.

LANKHOR FOLLOW THE FALCON

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starting with the September issue, on sale Tuesday 10 August.

To the Newsagent: ST FORMAT is published by

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Don't infiltrate the Black Sect all drassed in white... they'll spot you.

French softies Lankhor are set to release two new adventure games for the Falcon and ST over the coming months. Black Sect is a gothic adventure game set in the Vorteknie village of Hobdele. Your grandfather is mysteriously murdered and his precious spell book stolen. The Black Sect of the title soon starts to terorise the region and only you can stop them. The game features 34 different locations = 71 inside and 17 outside – as well as full character animation.

Sukiya is the long-awaited sequel to Maupiti Island and stars Jerome Lange, the famous French detective. This time Lange enters the cryptic world of a Zen monastery, hoping for a few weeks' recuperation, but the calm is shattered by the murder of a retired professor in the monastery's laboratory. It's up to you to discover who committed the crime in this Name of the Rose style mystery. However, Lankhor have no

plans to release either a Falcon or ST version of Vroom 2 in the UK. Domark already have the rights to the game – renamed F1 – and are going to be releasing it in August.

Both Falcon and ST versions of Black Sect are set to be released at the end of July through UBI Soft, whereas Sukiya is scheduled for release two months later.



Il Jerome Lange, the famous French detective from Maupiti Island is set to return in Sukiya, out soon.

GOSSIP

No new Falcon case!

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Modem wars

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Get involved

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Lucky dip

kopy of Calamus SI. for just E.y., enter PJP Publishings lacace and cross your lingues. PJH have decided to get rid. 1,000 disks, which take up to such room in their offices, by asys them off at 25 a piece. The catcitat you can't choose which per soms you want - you got when your publishing the publishing of the lauf regiven. For more details



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"A statute" Major Cabo Lordo. Cabo. Chiquia de montre james pur 18 h. verse quales o recent se qual decide miser de visit por anne partier en bugger la come very catalyst place VHIERE y voi.

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COVER DISK49

It's square, it's blue and Chris Lloyd's crammed it with all sorts of goodies for you to enjoy

Chaos Engine

BY: RENEGADE
RESOLUTION: LOW ONLY
FOLDER: CHAOS
FILES: CHAOS 1.TOS,
CHAOS 2.TOS
UNCOMPRESSED SIZE: 333K
GET STARTED WITH: SEE BELOW

Chaos Engine to unicoulsedly ains of the best games to come along for ages, but if you don't want to take our word for it, have a blast with this superb playable demo Be warned though, your joystick is going to come in for a battering.

This demo runs on STFMs

with IMByte or more of memory and on all STEx regardless of memory. The diemo has been active definition with the state of the state of

This month's selection of amazing programs

Chaes Engine
Brillant playable level of the hottest new game going.
Uncompressed stage 2006

POV Rostencer Create incredible pro-(i) w. -

Uncompressed
size: 2764 Page 16
Reytracing feature - page 19

Squinh
Fact, devices and completely
maddening angle game.
Blact SEX Page

Probasional quality MID: for Name 1886 Page 1

Cover Diek Beek-Up County your Disk for ever Since 13K Page 14 Disk Space
Check the free space on your hard and Roppy drives while this rather nifty utility.

Assembly listing
More delving into the payment of
assembly cacing
Time: 10th Page 14

control the second player or to hook up another joystick and let a friend join in Move the joystick up and down and press <Fire> to select your choice. You then enter the character selection screen in the full game you can choose between six dubious characters, in this demo, however, you are limited to the Navvie and the Centle

Il Action stations. Red alert! Get movin' and start running around shouting and shooting in all directions. Get yourself ready because Chaos Engine is a hectic and taxing blast.

torial on page 97.

man The Navvie is slow but tough while the Gentleman is agle and has bullets that allways go through enemies. Use the Joshok to select which one is going to be your alterego, and, it's on to the game

Chaos Engine is an eight-way scroler with loads of things to shoot and good'es to pick up its all joystick controlled and relent lessly frantic. The demo features a complete level for you to battle through. Your mission is to zep all



ii Your pick of protagonists - in the demo you only have enough money to select the Navvic and the Gentlaman, an unlikely pairing indeed.





Before you take even one step further, read this carefully

Tread carefully To keep your STF Cover Disk safe tect it by moving the black tab so you can see through the kole, Nothing can now be written to your Write-protection also keeps your Disk safe from viruses

Study the map Space on the Cover Disk pages is lim some programs on the Disk. These

have the file extension .DOC. It's always a good idea to read these for more information on a program Double-click on them and select Show to display the text. If text disappears off the screen when you try to read a DOC file in low res, change

Avoid the pitfalls To keep your ST FORMAT Cover Disk safe you should make a backup, so N

anything goes wrong, you still have the original. Secause we use a spe cial disk formet to squeeze programs disk to disk copy. We've made life wasy far you, however, with this Back-up program. Follow the instructions on page 14 and you can't go damaging or losing your disk again)

Seme programs are compressed

to fit on the Disk and cannot be run

directly from it. Follow the instruc tions here and it'll all be fine.

in imar dirivi akaalete? We use a double-sided disk formet. If you own a single-sided drive, you can't read STF Cover Disks, or much of the new software since singlesided drives are obsolete.

You are strongly advised to buy a new double-sided drive which can cost as little as £35.

THE DEVIL'S PLAYGROUND

Each level of Chaos Engine takes place over a different landscape of obstacles, nasties and Those mean and moody collectables. There's fighters are, in fact you siways more than one way through a level as well as hidden areas for you to find A node - shoot it to open The character's score The character's fives left -The character's special ability the little orange you ve got to use The green bar is your The number of nodes you've collected yellow bar indicates blast before you can go through the axit

the nodes - tall funny-looking white things that change shape when you shoot them - and make it to the exit in a reasonable cond tion. Each character has a special weapon he can use - hold down the <F re> button until the little box in the status panel starts flashing

then release it to activate it. The Gentleman starts off with a map while the Navyie totes much more useful bundles of dynamite Collecting the silver keys

opens up new areas of the level for you to explore and the gold keys

more than one way through the level, if you reach the exit you get a screen showing how well you did. What more do you need to

know? Oh ves.

don't forget to

ptenty back. Chaos Engine is an absolute cracker of a game, so get stuck into it - be warned though, you'll soon be crying out for more.

Eek! Loads of nesty things. The little bugs are right seds, they move very there been visional easy to shoot down. Watch out for the green tree things. they fire in all directions - luckily they don't move The best thing here in to cross your fingers and shoot His crazy.



I If you make it through, then you

get the lowdown on how you did. You seem to have taken a shart-out and missed most of the monsters.

Sauish

BY: TOM HARRIS FOLDER, SQUISH FILES: README, DOC. EQUIENTOS AND SQUIENDAY EZH DEN TOTAL SIZE: 95K GET STARTED WITH EQUIEN.TOE

This should drive you batty in no time. Saulsh is a simple and incredibly infuriating arcade game where you battle it out with strange creatures to see who can squash who first It's all joystick controlled and



Disk

Space

MEDIUM FOLDER: DISKSPC

DOSKSPCB.ACC.

DOSKSPCA.PRG

BY: MARK BRINKWORTH

RESOLUTION: HIGH AMD

FILES: DISKSPCA.DOC.

TOTAL SIZE: 36K READ: DISKSPCA.DOC



easy to get into, run SQUISH.TOS and prepare for frustration city From the title screen you can select the start level. Press the Fire button to start the game. The idea is to squash all the little beasties. You can jump on them or squash

them with the blocks If you're standing next to a block then pressing <Fire> enables you to slide them about. watch out for falling blocks

though. You also need to watch D Souish has been linked to several cases of uncontrollable elibberin' -

You can tell how much space you have on a disk from the Desktop easily enough, but it doesn't really tell you much. The thing is, when you've just completed a complex piece of work and you need to know if it'll fit on your disk without quitting the program you're running, it's not a lot of use. Disk

Space solves all that by giving you a smart graphical chart of the available space on all your drives. There are two versions, a normal program and a Desk Accessory version with the file extender ACC. Il Here you are just shoot to dellar the final blow on one of the devillab head things. Decen't it feel good?

out for the water. that's lethal too. The beasties are very fast mov-

ing and you need to be quick and clever to succeed in going through any of the levels without difficulty.

If you reach all the platforms before they disappear then you get a well deserved bonus. There are 40 levels in all and only the most hardened games players are going to see all of them, It's a game that grips you and if you're not careful you'll have to be dragged away from you ST screaming, "Just one more go. I nearly had them all that time, the swines!"

This version needs to be in the root directory of your boot disk to load. You can then get an instant readout on your drives by selecting it

from the Desk menu If you click on the little bars you get information on the BIOS parameter block, which tells you about the disk's construction. Clicking on the bottom bar shows you the size and free space in numerical form. It's an ideal utility for hard drive systems. Click on the little box at the top left of the window to

Cover Disk Back-up

IV: BRIAN TRAFT RESOLUTION: ALL RESOLUTIONS FOLDER: BACK UP FILES: BACK UP.TOS SIZE: YUR GET STARTED WITH-**BACK UP.TOS**

The first thing you should do with your ST FORMAT Cover Disk is make a backup copy. This is because the disk will self-destruct after about a week so remember not to leave it next to anything combustible Only kidding, but you never know when something nesty might happen to it - some spilt coffee or a careless accident with an industrial rivet oun can make a mess of your precious disk. The only way to buy absolute safety is to make a beckup.

Because of the spec al format we use to cram loads of goodies onto each disk you can't do a standard Desktop copy. You could drag each folder across to drive B, but it takes loads of disk swaps. The easiest way is to use the Back-Up program we put on every disk.

First write-protect your disk so nothing can be written to or de eted from the disk. Move the little black tab at the corner so you can see through the hole. Now get a spare disk ready and run BACK_UP.TOS. A menu appears, press <1> to start copying your disk. The source disk is the one your are making a copy of and the destination disk the one you are copying it to. If you have two drives then drive A is used for the source disk and drive B for the destination. Swap disks when promoted, if you have 1MByte or more you only need to make one disk swap.

Back-Up doesn't just do Cover Disks, almost any unprotected disk can be copied with it and you won't find a quicker or easier program to do it with - smart



8 Just what you always wanted, a smart bar chart showing you the free space on all your disk drives. Walt, apart from od health, happiness and loads of money, that is, Oh, and a nice on

Realfeel **MIDI Files**

BY REALPHA FOLDER: MIDI FILES: SFOUR1.MID. BONGOFUR.MID

Presse send me Volume 1 of the Realfeel Groove library in Notator/ MIDIfile 0/ MIDIfile 1 format, (Delete as applicable) I enclose a cheque for £9.95 made payable to Resified

Name Address

Send your orders to Realfeel Grove Library, 3/156a Stoke Newington Road, London N16 7XA

Please tick here if you rion't wont to coonive direct may from other companies

JAZZRAPZ,MID, SHUFFL10,MID TOTAL SIZE: 10K GET STARTED WITH: SEE BELOW

The trouble with drum machines and sequencers is the robotic sound you often get. The drum patterns somehow lack the spark of life and there's no substitute for a real musician playing. The Realfeel Groove Library puts all that straight with MIDI files of drum patterns played by a professional drummer straight into a sequencer using MIDI drum pads. Alt you need is a sequencer capable of loading stan

dard MIDI files and you've got a professional drummer playing with you

The full disk comes with 99 patterns covering a wide variety of styles including rock, soul, funk, jazz, reggee, latin and indy. As a taster we've got four examples on the Cover Disk for you to take a listen to. Never mind the width, feel the quality

The full disk comes in at £13.95 but as a special offer to ST FORMAT readers we've got a coupon that'll get it to your door for £9.95, how jolly.

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Too right! Your fast, furry friends at Cheetah have got some serious wall-wear for your bedroom. So now you know where you can stick it! This eve-pleasing poster features the Bug in all its functional upliness and the full line up and tech, spec, of the whole Cheetah joystick range.

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That's right! Not only are we giving you this poster FREE, but if you then enter our free competition and tell us which 3 sticks you'd like to get your hands on most, you could win all 3! So why are you still reading when you should be writing? Do the coupon thing now!

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Persistence Of Vision Raytracer

BY: POV FOLDER: POV FILES: README DOC, POV 1.TOS, POV 2.TOS UNCOMPRESSED SIZE: 876K READ: README.DOC GET STARTED WITH: SEE BELOW

Get ready to enter the world of truly awasome graphics. The Persistence Of Vision Raytracer is the most powerful raytracing package on the ST and any other machine this side of silly money. It takes a

simple script file that describes a three dimensional scene and use some terribly complicated maths to work out all the subheties of light ing to generate a photo-realistic picture. The final results are randered in 18,7 million colours and can be up to 4,096 pixels equire POV uses libraries of colours, shapes and textures that can be included in any scene.

It's not a fast process, even the simplest of images takes a while to go through the process

Pass the information on the left-

FOW Payment is a TTP program - short for TOS To below to exceed the resident you have been a for the payment of the payment of

oom for all the parameters you need. Mong with POV we've aded COMMAND TO command line programs injuncti POV and page.

it can also use batch me those are small taxt Mes with your commonly used parameter our playedy. There are no your at the payer are any your

and all the example scenes that are on this month's Cover Disk take hours to complete – but the results are well worth it In order to squash this mon

ster of a program onto the Cover Disk, it's been archived Get two blank double-sided disks ready and copy POV_1TOS to one and POV_2TOS to the other. Now run each program in turn – after a few munutes all the files unscrunch themselves to your disks, One disk holds all the documentation and the ublittes to display your final pretures. The other is your main

work disk with the POV program on it. Don't forget to delete POV_1.TOS, because you'll need the free disk space when you start saving your pictures

If you want to cut through all the tedrous faarming business and get down and trace some pictures streight away, just run COM-MAND TOS. You should get a mostly blank screen and a flashing cursor Now type in tractices 32 200 pacinate pacinate, tag and this CReturns, It won't be quick, raytracing is a very complex process. After a long tea break and a chap-





Il This car takes a good while to render but is extra impressive for it. The car's body is a GIF picture which has been texture mapped onto the car's chape. If They are real, they are coming, the big yellow things are on their way. Quick! Put out tennis balls in apiral patterns to confuse them.

THOSE USEFUL POV RAYTRACING PARAMETERS IN FULL There's more to setting POV going than first. either, d.er., for Texa. enougher - sets the and enougher - sets the and

There's more to setting POV going than first mosts the eye. Here's a list of those essential POV parameters

*ifflename - sets the Input scene to render where filename is the name of the POV file:

name of the picture file you are creating to whatever the filename is - that is the name of the POV file.

 - displays statistics while andering, useful to see how far through the process year actually are.

x - enables you to abort a condering by pressing a key

itype - sets the format of the finished picture. Type is either t, d er r, fer Terga, Dump or RAW

tunumber - sets the spart line for rendering a periling of a scene, where mission the line number.

p - walls for a keypres ofter randering.

hat was aborted with the ex option. fine for a partial rendering where number is the last line to be rendered.

bnumber - outputs the

attumber - uses antializeing when rendering. the number is a value between. 0.8 and 1.0 - the lower the value of the number the higher the smoothing. equamber – the image quality of the picture, the number is a value between 1 and 3 and the higher the better the final quality of the

image. The default value is set at the maximum.

important - using a instead of a '+' disables

K

hand side

TOATRACE BAT and RAW.
TRACE BAT, the first thing in
ment is the iname of the program
or un end then the list of parameters to pass across to it. Yecan end these yourself with any
east addro, remember to seve
them are pure ASCR lead, no
word processing documents.
use a batch file just type in the
care of the command line. We

in the batch file you can pess a Uvariable to it and them on no POU. In the two on the disk the width, neight, input file and output file and a state of the stat

ter or three of a book, a smashing 320 pixel wide, 200 pixel high and 24-bit picture of the PACMAN POV scene w I have been created on your disk - easy

You can't view this picture circity, you read to convert it into a more useable format using Photochrome which is also on the Cover Disk. There are 12 seenes inside the SCENES folder ready to be rendered, just substitute the appropriate names into your command line

Wifting your own scenes

seems daunting at first but it's a

simple enough description lan gauge to get to grips option. The gauge to get to grips option. The table and soon have you crestoring scenes of, well, balls at first After some protein option. The sound of examples. Initiate the DCCS folder there are lots of documents to read including a massive manual, required reading to get behind this crequired reading to get behind this processing the sound of the control of the sound of the sound of the control of the sound of the sound of the control of the sound of the sound of the control of the sound of the sound of the control of the sound of the sound of the control of the sound of the so

for? Get raytracing



Il This is a picture that really shows off the spread of bear and the amazing lighting effects possible on an ST using POV and

Now you see it, now you don't

Inside the UTLS folder there's and concluthe of utilities to display and convert your POV raytracings into pittures your ST can handle The amazing Photochomia takes ST graphics to the limit with more colours on-seen than you'll have ever seen before it can lead both TGA and RAW files. The best quality is achieved by using Super Iran on STPM and the stunning Pho

is achieved by using Super Hem on an STFM and the stunning Phofochrome pictures on an STE It's all mouse controlled and simple to use, click on Help Mell on the main menu and read-PCHROMES DOC for all the details. Once you've converted your protures you can use the PCS View program to book at them and make sideshows View RAW is a simple effort to take a quick look at RAW protures, ideal for installing as an application on hard drive syntims. There's also actifility to display YGA. Which uses the same nexts as Photochrome to get the full 2 Photochrome to get the full 2 Pho-

Assembly Listing

BY: TONY WAGSTAFF
FOLDER: ASSEMBLER
FILES: JOY.S, MASKER.S,
BENTEEL
TOTAL SIZE: 10K
GET STARTED WITH: SEE BELOW

Assembly is the most powerful programming language you'll ever need. It's not easy to get to grips with, but once you know how to program in it you can do what you want - there's no stopping you

These three listings go with the last installment of our series on learning assembly. They do terribly clever things apparently, so turn to page 97 to get the full story

What's your problem?

1. Tails Disk won't load! Store yet do saything also, donet your drive, R it's older than 1906, it's probably single-slided and connect format any fills to store than 2000. The also means it can't read ST 700MAT Cover Disk. Single-slided from the site of the single single-slide single single slide single slide from the and costs sittle as CS.

and cost as intru a et.2... So your drive's spanishing new, or at least it's double-sided. ST FORMAT duplicates hundreds of thuosenso of Dalas viewy intents ou, unfortunately, sooms are bound to be defective or damaged in some way. If the Disk just worst lead, or you earl's open a windred at all, there's mothing in it, or the falder names are publishedgen. In Disk is disfactive, it desert handler side or publishedgen. In Disk is disfactive, it desert handler entered in the publishedgen of the Disk is disfactive, it desert happen when, but please accept our sincere spolegies. You're guaranteed in free recleament of You return the Disk is.

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Enclose a sturtly self-addressed envelope (unstamped – we'll pay for the
postage) and a brief letter explaining the problem. If you're worried about
trusting your problems Disk to the mells, the Reyal Mail's Reserted Delivery
service sexts only 350 en tee of the nermal boostage.

Please den't sené your defective Diek to any other address than the above one - we have no stocks of Disks at the Bath or Someton office.

2. I can't work out this Cover Disk program!

Your Disk senses OK, existifiting loads, but you've get a problem with one of the programs. Make seve you've read all the relayerant Dover Disk pages and any desussest likes on the Disk. Ty owned they not your's manual to that may have the information you are given your's warmed to that may have the information you are given you set you as iting on Wednesday afternoon, Tolophous the ST POMBAT Dover Disk Hot. Res. = 2025 44224 On Wednesday to

We don't write the Cover Disk programs eurselves and don't know as much about them as the programmers, but we'll de eur best to light your problem set. Please note that the above phone line is for Cityer Disk preblems only. If you have any other queries, read on!

3. Flagron is problems with their other program I investigated. The last plant to dark it the affelfuner of the program. Most collecte bouses we seem him of helpine service—chies the information that yours with your software for the number.

4. I've still got an ST problem

If you've call get a prabletin, you complex your meeting according to you need an amount to a more general querier. Then you have dron options, all Ring the ordical Acast Heapline is \$13.52.52.23.23 on any day from Monday to Sidurality 8 pin - 11 pin or on Sandays from Byon to 11pin, (b) White to ST ARWAYER, \$17 FORMAT, 30 Monmouth Stores, \$6st, Annua Bal 25W - and EX \$7 FORMAT's team of expects trainly your problem in the pages of \$17.65.

Privace could your injects on the exercise what type of problem is 1.

Share your creations with STF

inal and short. If you've written anything worthy of appearing on STF's
Cover Disk, send it with this form and full documentation to: Chris Lloyd,
ST FORMAT Cover Disk Editor, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath, Avon BA1 2BW
Please be patient we get absolutely loads of submissions, and we try to
give them all a fair testing!
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Name	
Davisme pl one	Program of 6
	fidal way &

On a separate sheet, explain concisely what the program does and why you happen to think it's so brilliant

Remember to: Include on-disk and paper documentation Write your name and address on the disk I Use a virus-free disk Keps a copy of your program, because contributions are non-returnable Enclose an attractive bribe. Not that it makes a difference

Please sign the following declaration. This program is submitted for publication in ST FORMAT. It is wholly my own work and I hereby agree to indemnify future Publishing against any legal action should copyright problems arise



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GAMES

ROLL-IT: Challeriging German rolling-ball puzzle game. (1Mb) SOFTWARE PROJECTS: Manage a software house in this busine NOT DARKLYTE: "Space Crusade: type drolds wargaine THE COARSE ANGLER: Anguing simulation game: (LAIb). THREE REALMS OF SUSPICION: Intricate DED type test

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FREE CATALOGUE



Raytracing is the ultimate in graphics creation methods - it helps you make the most stunning visuals your ST can produce. Follow Chris Lloyd into a world where maths have never been so beautiful

tunning, there's simply no other word for the process of the process. There are dezeling raytracing examples used for special effects in films, station logo on television as well as book and magazine covers.

Raytracing is a mathematical way of creating photo-realistic images from a 3D model you've defined, complete with shadows, reflections and highlights. The possibilities are almost boundless

How the hell does it all work?
What we see with our eyes are different shedes and strengths of light. Reytracing uses complex equations to reproduce the actions of light on a series of objects. The screen is divided up into pixels – the individual oots that form the picture. For each pixel a straight line is traced to see if it his an it object. If it does then the path from the object to each light source in your scene is checked to see how much light there is. The light can be reflected or refracted off other objects first.

The objects in your raytraced world are made from primitive shapes including spheres, cubes and cylinders. These are rotated, squashed and mucked about with until they resemble the shape you wanted More complex shapes are formed from quadratic equations The surface properties are defined

"The realism vou can achieve is dazzling"

- what colour it is, how reflective it is and so on. From these properties the program works out how light bouncing off the object behaves.

You can even do something called texture mapping. This takes a picture and wraps it around your object, say to give the skin of a dragon scales or a face rosy cheeks and blue eyes. The degree of realism you can achieve is dazzling. images have a level of detail that leave other graphics floundering It's not completely realistic - for instance, the light doesn't fade with

distance and there is no indirect light - well, noth ng's perfect is it?

All this is, of course, horribly complicated to work out and involves allions of mathematical calculations. Luckily you don't get anywhere near this bit. All you have to do is define the objects. lights and cameras in your world and let the program loose on it. Because of the intense nature of the process it's slow - even very simple scenes take a few minutes

How you can make amazing pictures even more amazing

With the the Falcon and prerams like POV, raytracing is having a bit of a ressissance, fol lowing the spurt of programs that appeared a few years age (see page 24). There is new in new generation of programs in the offing. At the testing stage is Xenomorph' 2 from Lexicor Software. It has support for MultiTOS

background while you get en with something else. It also fee tures anti-aliasing and a heat of new textures. It can also reader nces created with Chronos is means incredible anima tions are possible.

From Christenson in Germay omes InSkepe, to be distributed

here by CGS. It's a medalling and acing program with a wealth built-in textures including wrinkles, waves and 29 different types of pattern. You can set different refraction types and there's also animation, it needs a maths coprecessor and there are and Falcon versions. Price uld be about £120. Also cor

ing seen is Chice from Business Assistance in France. It pro: to use the DSP chip on the Falcen to speed things up. No deal With all these programs and

the Falcon, the future for the werld of raytracing looks rosy expect to see a lot more of it.

THE PROFESSIONAL TOUCH



What? Not satisfied yet?

ee the picture with the train and fish on page 19? Undoubtedly brilliant and put together by someone who knows what he's doing. Mike Miller, who comes from a background in more traditional art, has been using POV for over

> two years He POV is the best raytracing program; it's in a class of its own. If you can get nest the script files it's outstand-

ing - the images are

crystal sharp 1 Mike's sunrk has appeared in books and magazines, including the front cover of High Color, a magazine graphics artist, "Raytracing is another artistic medium. Like any other you need to be inspired first and then you have to be methodcal about achieving it. Inspiration comes from books, magazines and films, mostly fantasy and sciencefiction First sketch out the scene on paper and then draft a blueprint You need to be meticulous about putting together the shapes and forms that create the final scene I render the shapes in isolation without textures to save rendering time. It's tempting to try and see what things look like with metallic gold or whatever but you can waste a lot of time. Test your textures on simple objects first."

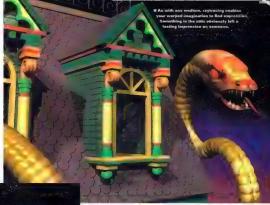
One of the first problems you're likely to meet when getting serious about POV is the speed of rendering. You pay for all that graphical excellence with hours of processing time. An extra ST helps,

More colours than ever before!

and more complex ones take a few hours or even days Your ST can raytrace with the

best of them, since it's all about number crunching. To show you first hand what you and your ST can achieve we have included a copy of POV - the Persistence Of Vision Raytracer - on this month's Cover Disk, Developed from a program called DKB Raytrace, it's the most powerful raytracing program this side of a lab, it uses a script file to describe the scene and runs using a command line program that passes parameters to the main program. If you're confused then have a quick read of the Cover Disk section starting on page 12 because it's all explained there

Reytrecing opens the door on a world of incredible pictures you wouldn't have thought possible, and, armed with POV, you can generate professional images with the best of them. It is undoubtedly the way computer oraphics are oning



SHOWING OFF RAYTRACING,

Show off and win £100!

In the spirit of expending the boundaries of ST graphics and because we're just such damed nice people we're giving you the chance to exhibit your work to the rest of the world. Send in your raytraced pintures created with POV - the best one wins the author £100. So, don't just stand there, get tracing!

THOSE RULES IN FULL

- It must be your own work, you can use the libraries included with POV but don't edit any existing POV files and definitely no tracing up someone else's file you found in an obscure corner of a PD library and passing it off as your own—we've seen them all
- Send us the original POV

ture and the final picture in TGA or RAW formet, 320 by 200 pixels. We don't have time to render all the pictures so if you just send a POV file it won't get looked at.

- This compo is not open to snyone who works for Future Publishing or their families. This means you, Ed Ricketts, and your pseudonyms.
- The judge's decision may well be horribly unfair but
- well be horribly unfair but it's finel and that's that.
- Send your efforts to Ray and Trace, ST FORMAT, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath, Avon
- Closing date for entries is Friday 20 August 1993.

you can set it rendering and get on with other things. You'll need lots of RAM too. What really gets things moving is a maths coprocessor which are standard on T7s. On Fetons and Mega STEs there is a maths coprocessor slot to enable you to plug one straight no Some scelestard cards for the ST also have meths coprocessor sorts. Simple scenes with a few

Inevitable, really, pool balls in all their raytraced glery. The "eight" ball is created by texture mapping a picture with the number eight in it around a sphere.

shiny balls can be left to trace overnight but when more complex scenes start taking days to render you'll soon be wishing for some extra silicon muscle







LIGHTS, CAMERA...

o get anywhere creating your own scenes with PDV you need to understand the intendeds of the scope file that tells the main program what your scene cokes like. These are plein text files, you can use any text deflor or ord processor as long as it can save your document as plain ASCII – Protext from Cover Disk 41 or Write On from Cover Disk 41 or Write On from Cover Disk 32 are disk 10 or Write On from Cover Disk 32 are disk 10 or Write On from Cover Disk 32 are disk 10 or Write On from Cover Disk 32 are disk 10 or Write On from Cover Disk 32 are disk 10 or Write On from Cover Disk 32 are disk 10 or Write On from Cover Disk 32 are disk 10 or Write On from Cover Disk 32 are disk 10 or Write On from Cover Disk 32 are disk 10 or Write On from Cover Disk 32 are disk 10 or Write On from Cover Disk 32 are disk 10 or Write On from Cover Disk 32 are disk 10 or Write On from Cover Disk 32 are disk 10 or Write Di

There are three basic elements to any scene, the camera or v-ewpoint, the lights and the objects you're looking at. Let's start with something very simple

Load up your word processor and type this little lot in. Save it as a pla n text file, don't forget the file extender POV. Now run the command line program and trace it up in the same way as the example pictures as described on the Cover Disk pages.

```
camera{
    translate <0.0 0.0 0.0
    direction <0.0 0.0 1.0>
    up <0.0 1.0 0.0>
    right <1.3333 0.0 0.0>
    look_at <0.0 0.0 3.0>
    phere( <0.0 0.0 3.0> 1.0)
}
```

object{
sphere(<0.0 0.0 3.0> 1.0)
}
texture(
colour red 1.0 green
0.2 blue 0.8
phong 1
}

object(
sphere(<1.3 -0.5 3.0>
0.5 }
texture(
colour red 1.0
phong 1

phong 1

Each block is divided up by curly brackets. The first block defines the camera position. Every object starts at the centre of the POV world, that is at the X, Y, Z position 0.0, 0.0, 0.0. The translate com mand moves the camera relative to its starting position. In this case it has no effect because the camera's already there. You can easily move it about later. The direction is the vector the camera is pointing at, it also determines the field of view, the larger the value the narrower the field. This can get tricky so the look_at command comes in handy. This specifies the point in your 3D world your camera is aimed at, in this case three units directly in front. The up command defines where the top of the camera is pointing and the right command where the right side of the camera is pointing, it also sets the horizontal magnification or aspect ratio – in this case set for 4.3 Next up are the objects – three simple spheres and a plans *POV* already understands these basic shapes so you don't have to define them.

The sphere's pentre

locations are defined in

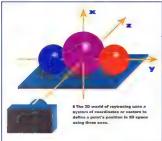
the same way as the camere position is, the last number is the radius The plane location defines the relative correction of the surface, the last number is the distance away from the middle of the world – in the case one unit downward. The taxture section can convoid – in the case one unit downwards. The taxture section can convoid – in the case one unit downwards. The taxture section can convoid – in terms of red, green and blue, such having a wayle between O and

1 The phong command adds a littitle shiny highlight to your spheres. Last, but by no means least, is a light to view your world by, It's given a position and colour values. Setting the red, green and bus values all to 1 gives you a white light.

The finished picture isn't too stunning but shows what's possible with a few very simple commands. Now you've got a basic scene to play with you can start adding the wacky effects

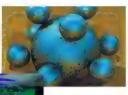
adding the wacky effects
First off, how about a sky?
The easiest way is to add a huge sphere enclosing the whole world.
Add a new object:

```
object{
    sphere{ <0.0 0.0 0.0 }
    texture{
        colour blue 0.6 }
```









You can see why raytracing is used to create images for films, you can just imagine Autger Hauer lounging by this pool boing weird.



to use. We can experiment by adding a few special effect to our three spheres. Try replacing the statements between the curly brackets that define the textures of our three spheres with the following instructions:

For the big sphere

agate phong 1.0 brilliance 4.0 reflection 0 15 colour map {

[0.0 0.6 colour red 0.9 green 1.0 blue 1.0 colour red 0.2 green 0.3

blue 0.71

colour red 0.0 green 0.1 blue 0.2)

And for the two smaller ones. The first unhorp

checker colour red 1.0 colour red 1.0 green 1.0 phong 1.0

And the second one

word turbulence 0.3 scale <0.2 0.2 0.2 > colour map (

green 0.2 blue 0.2

[0.0 0.8 colour red 0.5

[0.8 1.01 colour red 0.85 green 0.4 blue 0.4 colour red 0.9 green 0.55

blue 0.551

phong 1

You should now get three much more interesting textures on the spheres. Try altering a few values and experimenting with the textures, you can start by getting the chequered board scaled correctly That's just for starters; there are standard libraries of colours, shapes and textures inside the INCLUDES folder Adding #include COLOURS. INC would enable you to use any of the colours defined in The file of textures has all sorts of wonderful surfaces for you to play with from cloudy skies to chrome. You can create your own include files with libraries of your own shapes and textures. There are some very hefty text documents along with POV which detail all the commands, these really are an indispensable read. As with all good things, it doesn't come easy -patience and experimentation is the order of the day

POV is a powerful and flexible program. If you get to know its ins and outs you can become a serious contender around raytraced graphics and there's not much more satisfying. Quite.



I In the beginning there were spheres, for no better reason than they are easy to define, trace quickly and show off the lighting effects nicely.



■ East tume-tastures and a big sphere to create a sky and things start to look more interesting. The level of control you have over the shape and appearance of your objects is unbelievable.



Il Hang on a moment, we seem to have left out some of the intervening stages here. Looks rather good though, doesn't it?

NOT ONLY BUT ALSO

OV is not alone on the scene, there are half a dozen other revtracing programs available. They range from the simplistic Pearle to the power and flexibility of Xenomorph - check out the in-depth review in STF 47, turn to page 52 to order

your copy if you missed it. There are two basic approaches - with or without script files. Wireframe models makes the process much more visual and easier to get into but script files offer much more control and precision. You pays your money, you takes your choice.



rendering engine District. approachable yet meaty. Wireframe 3D objects make setting up the scene oppler.

mat created by 3D modelling programs like Cyber Sculpt, Xenomorph has an uncomplicated GEM interface: everything is graphically represented. There are two built-in textures - wood and marble. You can also texture map pictures onto any shaped object. Output can be anything from 16 to 16,7 million colours and in any size, it

ORT

even produces Spectrum 512 format screens. It takes advantage of an 030 processor or maths coprocessor if you have them It's respectably speedy, easy to use and the results are excellent It lacks the sophisticated surface textures of POV but excels in every other area

STF Rating: 93%

PRICE: £79 instead of using maths and script files to create objects. Xenomorph uses objects in the 3D2 for

PAGE 95

CONTACT: # 0634 710788 DKB CONTACT: PD DIRECTORY ON

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One of the first programs to show what your ST can do graphically, GFA Revtrace is looking a little dated now, but still looks groovy.

This is the program that POV was developed from and is very similar in operation. Having a less powerful raytracing engine makes it faster but less flexible. There are utilities to convert the DKB fires into POV files so if you've started with DKB you can move over without losing all your hard work. It has all the features you want in a high-end raytracer. There are loads of textures. texture mapping, fog and the like Output is in 24-bit Terge or Raw format. It's not as sophisticated as POV, but still in a different league than programs like GFA Raytrace even if you do have to wrestle with

B OKR produces stunning 24-bit out-

put like POV. Here is a scene show-

ing off the ability to put transparent

windows into our old friend, the hall,

uncooperative script files. STF Rating: 88%

The first raytracing package available for the ST. GFA Raytrace uses a GEM editor to create and render your scenes making it easy to get going with. You design everything as wireframes first. You can create basic animations too. The final output is a 512-colour picture similar to Spectrum 512

The basic set of objects is a little limited and you end up with a lot of mirrored balls on chequered floors. There are no textures and limited texture mapping It's slow and finished pictures often have trouble coping with the number of colours leaving dots and stripes on vour screen

STF Rating: 81%

FROM: COVER DISK 33 OR THE PUBLIC DOMAIN CONTACT: PD DIRECTORY ON



B A QRT scene, the brick pattern is defined using some smart mathe and the mirror ball shows off what it is capable of

The first of the really powerful script file based raytrace programs to be converted to your ST It works in the same way as DKB and POV but it's much faster and much simpler The types of basic shapes is limited and there's no rotation. It produces 24-bit RAW output, there is a higher occurrence of stray pix els with the wrong colour - the maths algorithms aren't as complicated. The major feature missing is the ability to texture map, you have to define your own surface pat terns On the plus side it's easier to learn and you can view your results a lot quicker

STF Rating: 79%

PEARLE

FROM: COVER DISK 33 OR THE CONTACT: DD DIRECTORY ON

You can define velocity and gravity and create realistic animations but all scenes tend to look similar

Not really a serious contender but easy to use and relatively fast Pearle uses simple script files There's little flexibility, it's basically balls on a patterned floor, the out put is fixed to 16-colour low resolution and there's no colour green could be a ted inconvenient

It creates a series of pictures forming short animations, each screen is saved as a Degas Elite picture. One thing it does have is realistic gravity, something unique to Pearle. It's not meant to be a serious raytracing program, just a quick and simple introduction to the process and a bit of fun

STF Rating: 58%

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IS THE GAMES INDUSTRY There are over three million ST owners in Europe yet the COMPLETELY games industry is reluctant to support

games industry is

BONKERS? asks the major players what their problem is...

"Over the last few

espite the fact that the games industry is selling more ST games than it has done for months, it seems to think it no longer needs you It's in the process of turning its back on Europe's three million ST users in favour of get-nch-quick consoles and CDi. Even the Falcon could fall victim to the software houses' lack of enthusiasm for Atan hardware Although it's a slow process the move is seemingly unrelenting with fewer games being released

each month But are the software houses making a mistake, in leaving Atari's machines too soon? There's months ST FORMAT still a market for ST has reviewed some games and the Faltruly great games" one and Jaquar have a potentially massive user base.

Over the last few months STF has reviewed some truly great games - Street Fighter 2, Civilization and the Chaos Engine The release of these games has given the industry a boost. Usually ST sales account for around 5% of the total, but they've recently reached around 10%. Previous low figures affect retailers like W H Smiths they're less prepared to give ST games shelf-space - this, in turn, means that software houses are faced with ever-shrinking profit margins when it comes to convert-

ing games to the ST. Typically, it takes six to eight weeks for programmers to convert a game to the ST - that's a lot of time and resources many software houses arque could be better spent elsewhere, especially if the ST version of the game sells hundreds of copies, rather than thousands. Of course, the first thing they consider is profitability - is it financially worthwhite developing games for the ST?

Gooch's World Class Cricket received a very respectable rating of 85% in STF 47 but the ST version sold poorly. prompting Audiogenic to recon-

sider their attitude towards the ST. Managing Director Peter Calvesays: "Our view of the ST has

changed somewhat Sales of World Class Cricket have been less than 10% of the Amiga sales we're talking hundreds of copies, rather than thousands." Not surprisingly, this attitude affects how Audiogenic views the Falcon "If we knew we could sell 5,000 Facon games we'd do it, but we haven't sold 5,000 ST games for a long time. This view contrasts sharply with that of Bridgett Hirst of US Gold who believes that they are becoming more aware of the

B it only takes Silmarils a month to convert names like Transarctica for the Falcon. so why aren't other



strength of the ST market following the success of Street Fighter 2 see page 7

> We're not being deserted! The games industry is divided into two main camps - the major software houses like Ocean and US Gold who churn out a constant stream of games and smaller, more specialised companies - Impressions, for example - who confine themselves to a particular genre,

ke strategy or war games. Over the past year major software houses like Electronic Arts which published the Populous games - and Coktel Vision responsible for Goblins - have deserted the ST for more lucrative markets In fact, Coktel Vision no longer produce any floopy disk based products - it's all CDi.

It's not all bad news though. the majority of the big software houses are continuing to support the ST. Virgin have another five ST releases lined up for 1993 including Dino Dini's Goall and Sens ble



Ultima VII - another role-playing adventure game easy for the Falcor to deal with. If only it was converted.

Software's acclaimed blow-'em-up Cannon Fodder Flight sim specialists Microprose are committed to releasing four new ST games this year, including Ancient Art of War in the Skies, while US Gold have re-eased Legends of Valour, the hugely successful role-playing game. Bridgett Hirst, of US Gold summed up the attitude towards the ST of a lot of software houses by saying, "US Gold is continuing to support the ST and is going to continue to do so as long as

demand is at a high enough level to be commercially viable.

A lot of companies like US Gold also get second bite of the ST cherry with strong budget labels their Kixx XL range, for example, features FORMAT Gold winning games like Future Wars, Midwinter and Operation Stealth, Another company who're still supporting the ST is Gremlin Graphics who've finally announced plans to release the ST version of Zool this Septemher after months of will-they-won'tthey speculation

It's not just the big companies who are going to keep releasing games for the ST either. Alternative Software is planning to release ten new games for the ST this year including Suburban Commando, a film licence featuring Hulk Hogan of WWF fame and Newcastle-based Zeopelin Games already have 25 ST titles available including old Impressions' games like Rorke's Drift and Great Napoleonic Battles.

Just across the Channel

Some of the strongest support for the ST in the UK comes from the French There are over a million ST users in France and the ST still accounts for 25% of all software sales there. This means there are still plenty of software houses willing to produce new games, including Silmarils and Lankhor who are responsible for the Ishar senes and the Vroom racino sim respectively.

Richard Hennerley, Managing Director of Daze Marketing, is responsible for importing many French games into the UK and remains enthusiastic about supporting the ST. "Even if Atan stopped selling the ST and Falcon tomorrow, there'd still be millions of users out there," an attitude, he says, which is shared by the French companies he deals with. Silmanis, for example, have just released Ishar 2: Messengers of Doom - see the review on page 70 and Lankhor are about to release two new graphical adventure games - Black



Black Scorpion's Speeder game is still in production, but uses all of the Falcon's capabilities including the DSP chip and the true solour mode.

philosophical

Sect and Sukrys - in the UK. See the news stories on page 10 for more details on those games. However, Richard Hennerley blames Atari's marketing and their commitment to the ST as a games machine for the ST's slow decline "Atari made a basic philosophical mistake in that they have this idea the ST is a business machine. This is absolute rot. It's a game's machine... It's a kind of commercial snobbery " Richard

arques that because of Atan's attitude "Atari made a basic towards the ST it makes dealing with them a frustrating mistake in that they experience, as if playing games is somehow an "inferior" pastime.

What hope for

the Falcon? It's no surprise, then - that with such strong support for the ST coming from across

the Channel - that the first Falcon games to appear in the UK have come from French and German companies. Although Transarctics and No Second Prize fail to make full use of the Falcon's potential, it does show other software houses how easy it could be to release games on the new format. For example, Louis-Marie Roques of Silmards says it only took a month to convert the PC version of Isher onto the Falcon, and that future releases are going to taken even less time, because the system for converting games is now well estab shed. The Falcon version of Ishar 2 - to be released in August - also promises to make use of the Falcon's true colour mode and the DSP enables the Falcon to process sound and graphics

information, while the main processor concentrates on the running of the software itself Atan HK's Mar

200 games which

ketina Manager have this idea that Darryl Still, however, argues that the ST is a business he'd like to see 20 machine. This is high quality games which, as he puts absolute rot" it, "are going to Richard Hennerley blow people's minds" rather than

> have been merely converted from the PC versions.

One game under development by Black Scorpion is Speeder, a furious 3D shoot-'em-up which finds you hurtling over a true colour raytraced landscape while baddies launch themseives at vol. from all directions. However, Still doesn't see the Falcon as a games machine, but more of a "home

GAMES WE'D LIKE TO SEE ON THE FALCON







If The French are major supportars of the ST in Europe and continue to releas excellent games like (shar 2: Measangers of Dodm in the UK.

"There even seems

to be some

confusion about

whether the Falcon

is available or not"

TOTAL STATE OF THE STATE OF THE

Il Games like Space Junk could finally prove to a sceptical public what a stepandous machine the Falcon really is.

entertainment" package, "I see the Falcon as a jack-of-all-trades, and master of them all."

The machine of the future?
The major problem Atari faces,
however, is in convincing software
houses and members of the public
that the Fatcon is a machine of the
future. So far, few software houses
– especially the major concerns



Il Gramlin Graphics confirm their support for the ST with the release of Zool expected in September.

prepared to commit the time and responses to developing software for the Faton Much of this is based on a septicism towards. At air's ability to market the machine affectively and that large enough quantities are going to be soot to make development of new software commercially visible. According to Virgini's Caroline Stokes, Atari are going to have to see all at least 50000 Fatons before Virgin are prepared to start programming pames for it. There

shout whether the Falcon is available or not. When asked by ST FORMAT if US Gold were going to commit themselves to creating games for the Falcon, Product Communications Manager Bridgett Hirst responded by saying, "The Falcon is a victim of timing launch dates have not been met and we're still awaiting a confirmed date. Once the machine has been released and there's proven demand for compatible games, US Gold will consider supporting the Falcon." So, who's to blarm? Either the software houses are failing to keep abreast of hardware developments, or Atarı really has its work cut out trying to convince them the machine actually exists

even seems to be some confusion

Another problem Atari have yet to overcome is the form the redesigned machine is eventually going to take. Software developers lake the Bitmap Brothers are calling for the base model to have at least ZMBytes of RAM on board, they've already returned their Falcon to Atari — who have sent it on to them to develop for it — because they're not prepared to do a 1MByte version of Cheos

Engine for the Falcon Simon Mount, Chaos Engine's designer says: "we got the game working OK, but to do anything flash in terms of the graphics or music we needed more than IMByte of RAM to play with. *Legends of Valour programmer, Kev Bulmer, has also experienced huge problems dealing with Atari – he's still waiting for his development machine a year after he was promised one.

Both Silmerils' Falcon releases Ishar and Transactica require 2MBytes to run. Daspite Atari's initial insistence that

IMByte of RAM was enough: "It's a bit of a red hering, because the DSP has its own mem ory and you can fit samples into the DSP without using the RAM," it looks as though Atari are finally acting to both the red was though at a single red was though at a single red was though at a single red was the red w

to pressure for

more RAM - rumours at Atari suggest the remodelled Falcon is going to have 2MBytes for the Christmas push. Despire the teething troubles, there are plenty of reasons to feel optimistic about the Falcon's future.

souped-up version of their Tornado flight sm, while Lankhor splanning a Felcon version of Vroom 2, the sequel to one of the best ever ST racing sims, Imagitec have almost finished Paiden and the long-awarted space adventure Space Junk

According to Atari there are going to be over 20 games available for the Falcon by the end of

the year and around half a dezan
games for the
Jaguar — when
that's released in
the autumn One
thing is for sure,
Alari are far from
the Falcon
the Falcon
the Falcon
the past but
they have
cerated prohams
in the past but
seem convinced

that they have the

knowledge and the machines to once again be at the forefront of home computing. To convince the reluctant software menufacturers to join them though, Atari definitely need to start delivering what they have

Digital Integration are developing a been promising set

games
industry
totally
biliskered
when it
icoking at
the potent
of the ST
market?



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Your ST can be used for other things besides writing the odd letter and eliminating the occasional alien. Clive Parker takes a look at three different projects where STs are used creatively and practically

machine Like all comput ers it has a potentially afinite number of uses - for nstance, you can produce incredibly complicated graphics with a commercial package as well as print labels, say, using a simple utility from the Public Domain

More and more people are discovering that they can use their STs for business as well as for pleasure, using their own creativity and combining it with their ST's ability to produce professional quality musical, video and publishing products. We spoke to three

Four ST is not just a games different groups who use STs at work - all standard models with modest memory upgrades to 1 or 2MBytes of RAM and none of them uses a hard drive. These setups are hardly any different to the ones you have at home our recent survey showed at least half of you have 1MByte or more of RAM

Apart from the professional video company, the enterprises featured use equipment they have put together over a period of time They have not gone out and bought thousands of pounds worth of gear in one mad spending spree. everything has been painstakingly

TRANCEPORTS OF DELIGHT - NOT JUS

were all cre ited ir and



This picture was created from a digitised picture of myself, saved se a Doggs file and leaded into Kezmin There we played around with the palettes and other functions until we ed a reasonably welld picture, we then saved it as a Degas file.

added one piece at a time on a limrted budget, and much of the software used is PD, Shareware or

"Software developed for the ST tends

to be top class and reliable"

Dermot Byrne

gleaned from ST FORMAT Cover Disks. It just goes to show that with the setup and facilities you may have at home, it's possible to come up with equally impressive results.

Why STs?

We spoke to Dermot Byrne, Media Co-ordinator of 33 Arts Centre, and asked him why STs were used at the Art Centre Dermot explains, "The ST is an easy machine to use and get used to, it's an extremely



A PRETTY CD BOX INLAY, YOU KNOW



"A scan of Alan's face was loaded into Kozmic with a golden palette. The left side was mirrored to the right, then the face was pasted 16 times to the screen The Dincour was drawn in Spectrum 512 on a white background and blurred.

stable platform and software

developed for it tends to be top

class and very reliable. Newcomers

to the ST can simply point and

click on the functions they want to

use, whereas most other systems

come up with obscure prompts

machine to use, most of the soft

ware we use makes the ST trans-

parent and you can get straight

into what you are doing. If you are

"The ST is a very efficient

that tend to baffle you."



with black and the car copied to the buffer. The face picture was loaded and the car was pasted over the top

The Rocket Bike was created in the same way except that the bike was drawn in Decas Elite.

working with Calamus you can load the software and immediately start designing and if it is Cubase or Natator you've got running then you can start making music as soon as it's loaded " Paul Taylor of Pilot Visionar-

ies had this to say about the ST. "Basically, we used the ST because it was available and could do the job we wanted. We have an ST VideoMaster from Microdeal and we decided that it would be perfect



global logo was created in Gegas. The colours and textures were added in Spectrum 512. The logo was added to the other pictures using Block - and any Blake's Seve influence is totally unintentional."

for the job we wanted to do. James Kelly of Simulations Inc dealt with all of the animation and digitising while I chose the video images that we were going to use and also directed the video "The ST is easy to use and

has powerful graphics programs available that doesn't cost the earth; comparable software on other machines like the PC, Mac or Amiga typically costs three or four times as much as ST software,

" Comparable

software on other machines... typically costs three or four times as much

making the ST an ideal choice"

Paul Taylor

making the ST an ideal choice " Stewart Robinson of Tranceport bought his first 520 STFM in 1988 specifically for music purposes, " bought the ST because it had a MID interface so that it could be connected directly to a MIDI recording setup

"We quickly found out that a 0.5MByte machine wasn't ready going to give us a lot of space for storing song data so we got a 1040 STE to replace it. We realised that the big programs like Pro 24 and Cubase were too expensive so we used a cheaper sequencer called Studio 24. We discovered that the









The 33 Arts Centre based in Luton has been in

operation for 12 years, acting both as a resource for the legal community and also as a training centre for people from a much wider geographical area who wish to fear more about the arts.

The most technical features of the centre are the 16-track recording studio and the video studio. 33 rts Centre preduces records, CDs, scratch videos, drams videos, pep videos, corporate training films and TV adverts, all based around a trio of STs. Almost every aspect of the

tre, with courses in photography, music, video, dance and theatre.

Everyone working at the centre has werked professionally in their chosen field they are not just technicians showing you how things work, they can provide exper-

guidance based on practical experience. All seurses are very reasonably priced so that everyone can afford to learn more about their particular interest. Many mere elderly and young people enrol

on the courses, lets of which cater fer varying skill levels so that everyone gets a chance to participate. Many courses are funded by sponsors the ESF (European Social Fund) is currently sponsoring courses for unemployed youngsters in music and video production. Apparently. it is easier to get sponsorship funding from Europe than from

local authorities in the UK at the

ree to be free to breathe ST is so easy to use that we decided to use it for everything."

Musically speaking

On the music side of things 33 Arts Centre uses Cubase 3, Pro 24 or Notator for sequencing, they also have Proteus and Casio FZ editing software for the synths and tone modules. The Steinberg programs are the particular favourites because they are so simple to get to grips with - you hardly need a training course to learn to use the software or hardware

Tranceport used a couple of sequencers to produce their Tranceglobal CD, mitially they used Studio 24 from Digigram but they found that It was limited in scope and had some problems. The other software they used was Steinberg's Cubese 2, although this is an older version of the program it provides all the features the band require to produce their music, they now use Cubase 2 exclusively for their sequencing. As Stewart Robinson of Tranceport said. "It's all down to the person using the software, not the software itself. You've got to persevere and make the effort, you can only get out what you put in."

Graphics

For DTP work Calamus 1 09n takes pride of place at the 33 Arts Centre. Dermot says, "Calamus 1 09n is the best mono DTP software around and very good value for money, we can use it on a single disk ST system without any problems

"We have tried other DTP packages but we have found them to be slow and unreliable Other artwork is designed on Degas Elite. DPaint and Easy Draw and we use Protext for word processing. There is also a lot of useful PD and Shareware software around. I have quite a co ection of ST FORMAT Cover Disks - I still use Fantasia, Trip a-Tron and Kozmic to generate graphics for videos."

Tranceport also use their ST for other purposes, the graphic art for the Tranceglobal CD insert was created on the 1040 STE using Kozmic, Spectrum 512 and Degas Elite. All of the digitised artwork was created by Sinister Developments using their VIDI ST digitiser. the saved files were then manipulated by Stewart Robinson using Kozmic and Spectrum 512

The animals in the artwork and the lettering were created free-

"It's all down to the person using the software, not the software itself you've got to

persevere and make the effort" Stewart Robinson

hand using Degas, Spectrum 512 and a hand scanner Once all the graphics were

designed the screens were photographed using an SLR camera. Each screen was photographed three times at various brightness and contrast levels to ensure that a decent image of each screen was produced All the photos were then pasted up on a six foot by 18 inch. card for the printers.

Stewart recommends that get your screenshots processed by a private laboratory so that you can discuss exactly what you want with the technician it's no good taking your film into Boots and expecting a perfect set of screenshots back.

Business and publicity

33 Arts Centre uses a Canon RJ-10 printer mainly for proofing artwork and letters, although it is occasionally used to produce final artwork. Calamus files are sent to a DTP bureau in London where bromides are produced. All of the art centre's printing needs are provided for by their STs, including record labels. record and CD artwork, promotional pamphlets and guides to forthcoming events at the centre The STs are also used occasionally for other things, mainly PO spreadsheets and databases for producing presentation graphics

Tranceport use the business software provided with their 1040 STE pack: all their accounting, database and word processing needs are handled by ST Calc (spreadsheet), ST Data (database) and ST Word (word processing) Another of the band's favourites is First Word Plus, mainly because of its simplicity

Stewart says, "The software provided with the 1040 STE is capable of handling all of our business needs, some of the programs are quite eccentric but they generally cope with everything we want The database package is slow and difficult to update so we will probably have to find some-

thing else to replace it." Their advertising for their discs and shows are dealt with by Surreal Records about the only bit of their organisation that doesn't include the ser-

vices of an STI setf

L EVER NEED TO ACHI

B Contact Surreal Records for the Tranceport CD on v 0386 832586, cost £12 each # 33 Arts Centre on = 0582 419584 for Parties and Play Violanceias on v 071 652 0600

II All this publicity m was produced by 33 Art using Calamus 1.09n then sent to a DTP bureau in London





done of the prejects

THE HARDWAR

All the software used in the studios of the 33 Arts STs with a minimum of 1MByte of memory. They don't even have any exte nal disk drives or hard drives - though a hard drive would be welcome

s studio

- 2MByte STE SM129 mono monito
- Foster E-16 month-track
- Auto locator and racio
- mounted Sony DAT, nerator.
- Various other tone generators and MID
- Roland 550 sampling keyboard.
- Video studio

In Law Sword Howard

recorder, this is some where between broadcast and domestic standard VHS recorders.

- Camcorders and profes-
- sional quality cameras.

 VIDI ST for digitising
- Design studio
- Two 1040 STFM: Canon #j-10 printe
- This group of people create their video effects
- and treat the footage they've taken with profes sional video equipment using VideoMaster and Cyber Paint to fiddle around to get a perfect
- 2.5MBytes STFM Video Master.

- Sony 1750 tube camera. Parassenté FGI chip Low band U-matic Sony video pack.
- If you want to see some mples of Pilot Visionar tion of others), make sure you get down to Slank

Vision, 32 Maddox Street, Blank Vision Is a video gallery that has been set p by the video artist Jeremy Blank.

ing ST setup for music,

graphics and business pur poses; they have just acquired a second-hand

- 10:40 STE.
- Colour monitor and mono emulator External disk drive.
- Zydec Handy scanner. ■ Selkosha 9-pin printer, OVIDEST.
- If you would like a copy of the Tranceglobal compact disc, contact Surreal Records on # 0386 BERTHE.
- Tranceport consist of Bobby Cillies, Alan Martin and Stewart Robinson

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MultiTOS unveiled

MultiTOS is a multi-tasking operating system for the Falcon030 which can also be used on the STFM, Mega ST, STE and Mega STE. Clive Parker tests it to the point of destruction

ou know the feeling, you are in the middle of a complex piece of work when you suddenly discover that you desperately need some files from another application which you haven't had to time to finish

Until recently, you would either have to exit the program you are using and run the other application to finish off those files or have two STs running at the same time. Well, it doesn't have to be that way because the big change has come about in the

SEM, Graphic Environment Henager Hultivesking RES and DESKIE

Hist kernel licensed from

shape of MultiTOS, the latest oper ating system to come from Atan

What is MultiTOS? MultiTOS is a replacement operat-

ing system for the Atari Motorola 68030 based machines, the Falcon030 and the TT. The main feature of this new version of TOS is the ability to multi-task, that is, run more than one program at a time and switch between them at will Unlike multi-tasking software on other systems, MultiTOS actually runs both tasks at once using high speed switching between them,

other systems normally let you ■ The familiar Atari TOS copyright messag has been replaced by the new MultiTOS

capyright, revealing the operating system is based on MINT.

Where did MultiTOS come from? California further developing

MultiTOS is based on a popular Public Domain multi-tasking program called MINT (Mint is Not TOS) developed by Eric Smith while he was a graduate student at the University of Ontario. Since we first reported on MultiTOS in issue 34 of ST FORMAT, Eric Smith has found a full time job - he now works directly for Atari at their US headquarters in Sunnyvale. machines

The original version of MINT could only run programs that used TOS alone, any software

MINT for the new range of Ateri

that made use of GEM was not compatible. The new version of MINT (Mint is Naw TOS), however, has been developed so that it is fully GEM compatible and been renamed MultiTOS.

Where do I get MultiTOS?

work on the top application while the bottom one freezes.

A special feature of MultiTOS called Adaptive Prioritization, helps make multi-tasking efficient and reliable. It assigns more processing time to the most important program running, a background task works quietly away until you start entering data or a calculation in the top application, this then grabs the lion's share of the processor time

Why use MultiTOS?

Well, for starters you can work on two related jobs at once. If you're working on a page in a DTP program and you need to edit a graphic file that wasn't quite right. you would normally have to save the document, exit the DTP program, run the art package, edit the graphic, save the file and then reload your DTP program to finally import the file onto your page This can get rather tedious to

say the least. With a multi-tasking operating system you can have both programs running at the same time and switch between them at any time, this saves time and effort. Alternatively, you can just have your main applica

tion running and load the secondary program | from the Desktop when you need it

Of course this is just an example If you are using time intensive graphics applications **8** MultiYOS certainly does

let you run more than one program at a time, here wa see an image being displayed by GEMview, a text file being edited by

STerro as well as Diamond Edge running in the background.



such as rendering or raytracing

you can set up your next job while one picture is being generated. If you're into programming,

you can edit your graphics and sprites without leaving the main programming language, and test the new graphics immediately.

You can get on with word processing or editing messages and E-Mail while your modem downloads a file from a BBS or you can calculate information in a spreadsheet and enter the data directly into a word processor



the Mega STE, four programs, two Deak Accomparies and the Deakton are all evallable at any time.





eletion. Dia 2 FAT and dic tervals. Di nd Edge by s B moning items

Hardware limitations

To use MultiTOS on the Falcon you need the 4MByte of RAM/ 65MByte hard drive version of the machine since MultiTOS needs a minimum of 2MBytes of RAM. If you want to use MultiTOS on a standard ST, STF or Mega ST then there are a few hardware limitations that you must take into account. First you need a hard drive - MultiTOS takes up 2MBytes of disk space and cannot be run from a floppy disk.

It's advisable to have a 4MByte machine MultiTOS runs with 2MBytes of memory but with that setup you are going to struggle to run more than one

application effectively Finally, STs are slow Normal STs run at a clock speed of 8MHz, MultiTOS is designed to run on Falcons at a clock speed of 16MHz or on TTs at a clock speed of 32MHz, Installing a hardware accelerator or running a software accelerator such as NVDI improves the performance

of MultiTOS, but it's still not very fast even when it's on the Falcon,

If you want to upgrade your ST to MultiTOS then contact. Marpet Developments for STFM and STE 4MByte memory upgrades. The First Computer Centre have ST hard drives starting at £349.99 for 52MBytes.

without having to swap. You see. the possibilities are endless MultiTOS runs all correctly

MultiTOS:

conform with Atari's programming quidelines as laid out in the Developer Documentation for the ST written TOS programs, that is, all range of machines. If software has programs that have been written to been written using illegal routines or address calls then it is likely to crash under MultiTOS

out any problems.

multi-tasking operating systems and enables several programs to run concurrently without interfering with each other, so if one program crashes the rest of the system continues to operate with

Machines with the older Motorola processors (68000 68010 and 68020) do not have integral built-in memory protection - this means that if one program crashes then all the other ones running also crash. This is why using MultiTOS on an STFM or an STE is a bit of a gamble, it's bad enough losing one

lot of data when a program

verwritten by the program that

Release to the Brate Malty FOS Install program [fastall | Zait festall

If The Installation looks exactly the same on a Falcon, albeit a bit more colourful As you can see, at least SMRutes of hard drive space is considered for the Stuttiving Since

crashes, losing two lots of data or more is an even bigger disaster

Installing MultiTOS If you are thinking of buying a Falcon with a hard drive, then Multi-TOS should already be installed on the new machine, if, however, vol. have bought one of the earlier Facons to come into the UK then you will have noticed a strange lack of MultiTOS on your machine. This is because the hardware was finished before all the software was ready. and rather than delay the launch of the Falcon any longer, Atan

decided to supply the multi-tasking

Memory protection

MultiTOS is written to take advantage of a feature of the Motorola 68030 processor called Memory

Protection. This feature is ideal for If you really want to dispense with memory protection on your Falcon then turn it off in the MultiTOS CPX.

General MultiTOS related problems on the ST

The following preblems occur on all STs which are running MultiTOS

The mouse pointer sticks in Busy like mode or disappear altogether when you close of applications.

Disable

Disable

Cancel

Some software "sticks" as the open application,
Although you can access the Designent to select another program
or the Desktop, control is not
passed to the selected software. Occasionally, the window

Is taking control – so you end up not actually seeing the top poplication's windows. Most non-GEM programs

tend to crash or cau unexpected errors, causing everything running to fall over

The multi-tasking tests

Na tested MultiTOS on four different machines with these setups:

• Falcon030, 14MBytes RAM, 16MHz. Mega STE, 4MBytes RAM, 16MHz,

running in medium resolution. STE, 4MBytes RAM, 8MHz, TOS 2.06 running in mone with NVDI installed.

• STE, 4MBytes RAM, 8MHz, TOS 2.06 running in mone with NVDI disabled. And this is how they reacted to...

Protext 4.3

Probably the most popular word processor around, Protext crashes instantly while running under MultiTOS on the Mega STE in colour and on the STE in mono. Protext locks up the Falcon as soon as it loads whether MultiTOS is running or not. So, this means that Protext is definitely not a MultiTOS compatible program - this was to be expected because the program bypasses GEM and creates its own interface

STeno

STeno is a new text editor and is one of the first programs available that has been written using the Falcon030 Developer's Documentation from Atari - following the guidelines laid down for keyboard shortcuts and uses the Atar Clipboard.

As expected STeno works perfectly on all the machines running MultiTOS, although screen updates are slower than running the program from TOS. STeno is noticeably slow on the STE when NVDI is disabled, with text scrolling slowing right down to a crawl





WHILL A By this Irwary, the High Contracting Farties establish awang themselves a Lawarean Galton, hereinsiter called "the Gunay" This Treaty ments a use stage in the process of creatles an ever closer arise awang the papeles of Earnee, is which decisions are taken as classing and diving the posterior so successful to the citizen the Enter shall be founded so the Lurepean Communities, supplemented by the American shall be founded so the Lurepean Communities, supplemented by the American shall be founded as the Lurepean Communities, supplemented by the American shall be founded as the Lurepean Communities of t

Ill Gemview and STene running on a 4MByte STE -STone becomes almost unusable while Genview is loading a picture.

WILL IT OR WON'T IT?

We tested a selection of popular programs to see which work with MultiTOS... D2D Edit (Falcon only) . Personal Finance Manager Plus Prism Paint DA's Master Diamond Back 2 ST ZIP 2.1 and 2.2 MultiTOS Diamond Edge -_ STeno Fcopy Professional ___ TruePaint Gemview 2.2 That's Write 2 Imagecopy Colour 2 .. 4T/FX (Falcon only) , and those which don't work either on the ST or on the Falcon Cyber Sculpt CCA Bade 3 5 I DW Proven Superhase Temous 2 Degas Elite **GFA Draft** Prodata Personal 2 DAY 5 7 Family Roots Home Accounts 2 Protext 4.3 Superbase 3D Calc Fontkit Plus 3 **HPChrome** Protext 5.5 Personal 2 GFA Assembler STOS Supercard 2 Knife ST

software at a later date. The Atari Falcon030: MultiTOS Distribution Disk supplied by Atari is simply that, a double-sided disk contening a) the MultiTOS files.

To install MultiTOS you simply place the disk in the drive and run the installation program and follow the on-screen prompts. There's no manual for MultiTOS, there's just six A4 sheets of paper

providing the basic information to install, configure and use Multi-TOS This is called the Multi-TOS Preliminary User's Guide, and it actually tells you everything you need to know about the operating system so that you can use it to be best effect. Unless you want to to be best effect. Unless you want to the Wilti-TOS you don't actually need more in depth information. act'

Programming for MultiTOS

If you want to develop your own software for the Falcon030 and MultiTOS, you need to get hole of the Atarl Falcon030 Developer's Documentation. This consists of 120 pages that provide all the information you

software, take advantage of the DSB 56001 processor and use the paicon030 specific hardware. The developer documentation costs £49.95 from Ata1 and supplied complete with a DSP seembler program, DSP Debugger and Linker software.

Gemview 2

Gemiére Z is an excellent Sharewere graphice program that enables you to display 256 cours or program that enables you to display 256 cours and true colour images on the Falcon, or on any ST with a colour graphics card. Because Gemiere has been written to work with colour graphics cards, it follows the Atlan programing up delines very closely, which makes it fully compatible with the Falcon.

Gamview is also MultiTOS compatible. On the Falcon, the top application slows down and becomes almost unusable when Gamview is oading a JPEG image in the background – these are compressed and use a lot of processor time.

The Mega STE is fine when using Germiew although the top applications also run slowly The STE is virtually disabled while Germiew loads data, both with and without NVDI top applications just sit there while the processor decompresses the JPEG pictures.

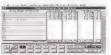


STeno running on a 14MByta Falcon030 -STeno slows down when Gerretaw is loading a picture but is still just about upable.

Diamond Edge 1.4

Demont Edge is a hard drive maintenance utility that ensures that your data is kept in tip-top condition. Using the program under MultiTOS is no problem, although the main window has no problem, although the main window has so notere device to make it larger or smaller – but you can move the window to one side to get at Desktop ioons or other windows underneath.

Even though Diamond Edge runs on all machines suns MellirOS, some modows are not cleared when switching to other programs—some of the Edge coops are visible on the 5 Feno window when switching from the Deak mean the second of the Edge and Edge is constantly eccessing the hard drive it is not really recommended to perform any markensure functions of the same time as another programs and the same time as another programs.



Diamond Edge is fine, but don't use it while running another hard drive accessing program.

Fastcopy Professional

Fastcopy Pro is probably the best formatting and disk back-up program swellable for the Alari and disk back-up program swellable for the Alari analysis of machines, capable of high density and PC compability of formats. Although the program (pade and runs correctly on most machines using MultiTOS, the Deak menu or the Deakton can't be accessed, and you can't switch between applications at all Lockly, Fastcopy Pro can also be used as a Deak Accessory, so it is always available from within other programs.



E Fastcopy Pro works under MultiTOS, but it doesn't let you get at the menus or switch to other programs. So, it's not much good really.

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But that game's not out yet!

be a fraught business, but if you want any new software or hardware for your ST, it's one you're going to have to get involved in

in these recession-hit times you have to be particularly aware of the less scrupulous companies who grab your money even if they don't have the software in stock who advertise even if the name and passy - in easing worse, not even coming out on the ST, companies who go down after you've paid your money leaving you out of

pocket and product but increasingly mistrusting; companies who say they're going to repair your beloved machine but somehow seem to make it function even worse than it did in the first place and that's assuming you get if

*As a seneral rule those companies which have been around for years and to go fair

software these days you have to

buy mail order - the shops aren't stocking software packages in the numbers they used to, if you want your ST repaired you want to send it off to someone

who knows what they're doing, not just take it to your local console dealer and come away crossing every conceivable part of your body

The same goes for getting involved in the lively world of the Public Domain - you don't want to take months painstak ingly deciding what incredible combination of software you want on ten disks only to find that the supposed proprietor of the library has gone to uni versity, leaving his bedroom a

mess of unopened orders back it's a fact of life that to get ST Whether it's for convenience's sakes that you don't want to be

without your machine or that vrtal bit of software or whether you want to make sure that you don't let any disreputable dealer get their hands on your money, you need to take extreme care when vou're buying mail order

from aff in the Carifibuum

The main hazard and one that we all dread when buying by mail order is that the company you choose to buy something from will have, when you wake up in the morning, disappeared into nothingness - your cheque has been cashed and the last time anyone saw the owner he was heading to the airport bound for Barbados.

Find out all that you can about the company - as a genera rule those companies which have been around for years rather than

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und or alter year choice of software. Uninvited commendation case from All tair Weghern of Dundos – "I wish to semiment Millyworth for volume I have mothing little ins. I contacted them after I had bee milly lot down by another mail order on of in an affort to sistain Street Fighter 2 The girl I speke to couldn't have been more eful in supplying the gener. She more

dualy leasn let down she offered to personally take the game to the peat office and thus very the next day. I did not take her up on her offer, however, true to her of the same and

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months are the ones to go for. If they can stay in business and afford to advertise they're probably doing something right they've had experience in dealing with quite a few customers who have come back to them repeat edly having been satisfied with the

service they've received. If you can persuade the company to tell you its annual turnover - that will give you an idea of how successful it is. Silica Systems, for example, are proud of their expenence and they tell you everything you need to know in their advert established 14 years, £12 million turnover with 60 staff," Again, the larger a company's turnover, the less likely they are to go down tak ing your money with them

Following them

to the Caribbean

Partly because of the recession and partly because supplying discount software and hardware is such a cut throat business with huge discounts offered - and consequently very low profit margins for the company - the worst does sometimes come to the worst and companies do go to the wal-

If you've paid for the goods you've ordered with a credit card this shouldn't affect you, but remember, you must be the main card holder - the card should

re ate to you personally, rather than to your business - and you must have spent at least £100 This is because credit card orders over this amount are protected by the Con sumer Credit Act which protects you if the company fails to deliver your order. Some companies such as Rubysoft and European Computer User offer the additional benefit of not debiting your credit card

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to cash cheques as soon as they receive them - if there was a breakin into the company's premises for example, the

money could end up in the wrong people's hands - and anyway cheques go out of riate after six months

When you're looking for software or hardware, scour the ads carefully and make sure you read all the small print - if you find anything you think is suspicious or dodgy, check it with the com-

pany. For example, if you are offered a quotation for the cost of repairing your machine instead of a fixed price you may well find vourself being stuck having to pay a lot more than you'd originally

pargained for Shop around and find a company who'll give you a definite price. "Read the small print" has been said many times, and it really is essential that that's what you do The comments on adverts in small writing are usually there to protect you and your interests. seff

Barl Marshant explained, this is always expethis because they assumity for the mashing first so that they know exactly what the prob-lem with the machine is and leav gunt it's going to seet, "discovering that the machine is going to east more to repair then we state never happens." Customers are then told lost much the job sents and most agent the have the job done. If you don't want it done at that seet, however, you pay your £18 and the machine is returned to its orig tion - and then to you. You don't have to pay anything until you're bappy with the seed and all the repair month guarantes.

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Although Booking PD polymers in compact and politicines. It really is essential you turns prior to ordering, especially if the thrary is a small one - It sould be run fried tily from someone's bedroom

Different Public Dennis Maurice steams illigrant prices for exactly the same dist also, make ours that you're getting the letest medica of a program; the bigger libraries like dinama got meant of their autonome direct

Mose to mind that PD Milysips are pain posed to be non-profit making, licensing par pass carefully - the chances are that the ment the Mirery presents leadly the more ofsecond it is in its dealings with its essnors. Feel free to not them if they rele

obth autophid politicary of the pay horis w

After unles needen in uncy interestable corestiler this uplayited commendation from Real Johnston of Middlesbarough: "I resently pught the four disk Phaleon Gige Dentil from Caledonia PDL but before I had seen the repair. I phoned them the meet day to try and enter just Disk One but was told not to worry Mout It, the disk would be pested straigh The thing is that it was entirely my own faul. that I demaged the disk without first health. Kup and I was willing to pay for a replant ht, ledt the service at Calebonie it sho at they took it upon themselves to pay fe my mistake. It is true that Caludenia do im to offer the chaspest disks available in





HJ100I INKJET

Inkiet printers are taking over the world, or so it seems from here. Peter Crush babysits Brother's latest offering

here's no stopping them, is there? New inket models just keep on appearing! Until recently there have been three major varieties: the HP Desklet range, the new Epson variety, and the Canon Bubbleiet range

Although HP were the first in the inkiet stakes, with Epson as a late entry. Canon caused quite a stir when they released their Bubbleiet BJ-10 - it's tiny, portable and produces beautiful output. Clone ver slons of this 360 dpi machine soon appeared, including Brother's first effort, the HI100. This has now been superseded by the HI100i, and we've given it a once over

The HITOO doesn't look much different from the onginal Canon Bubbleiet or other look-alikes, such as Star's Star et SI48, It's very compact ooking more like a small portable aptop computer than a printer - but

when you hinge up the lid, its printing abilities become apparent

The multi-function control buttons are all on the ton nanel, a standard Centronics parallel port is on the right hand edge, and the power lead plugs in on the left from a separate power supply unit. If you want, you can run the ponter from an optional NICAD powerpack which fits inside the little machine, freeing you from the constraint of needing a mains socket nearby When it comes to printing.

character spacing and letter/draft quality can be selected via the switches on the top panel. Selection of the font you require has to be done through your software. This is no problem if you have a word processor like Protext, where fonts can be chosen from the style menu. With a "graphical" word processor like Write On or That's Write you're not



I The text output (right) is terrific, but then all Bubbleiet ciones produce text that's deep and crisp and even. The skeletal chap above is an printer's graphic capabilities - it lacks the banding exhibited by some inkjet print-

ith the Amiga version ScanPaint ate the easy scanning and manip mages can be saved as either PO es can be imported into many DT ssional looking documents. e scanning software enables you

example of the lighten, enlarge, reduce, mosaic them to disk or importing them ded with all the software menti



5 The NJ100 looks a bit like a Canon Rubbleiat printer with a Brother look printed on it - with its three emulation modes, it can suit most of your needs by becoming an IBM Proprinter or an Epson

Three-way personality

The HJ100I is a deceptive little machine - It cam Impersonate three different

limited by the Brother's few typefaces, but can use the numerous fonts available with these programs. Likewise, if you are printing DTP documents from software like Timeworks or PageStream, any text is created as a bit image and bypasses the printer's font limitations. Printing speed is not that fast, but the output quality is excellent

Verdict

With plenty of competition, the HJ100: inkjet needs extra features to set it apart. It supplies them in the shape of its three printer emulation modes, its ease of operation and the fact it's available in the shops for well under £200 - and that's less than the other inlast clones, it has most acceptable print quality, it is remarkably quiet and is extremely easy to use. Recommended setf

HJ100

- Highs

 Good print quality.
- Easy to use.
- Cheap to buy ■ Dead quiết Lows
- Only a limited number of built in
- at else? Canon BJ-10ex £199, We Serve
- **= 0705 647000**. Star SJ-48, £199, Wi Serve, # 0705 647000. ■ Portable Desklet, £528

Hewlett Packard, w 0344 369369.

SVGA MONO MONITOR



So you've lashed out £1,000 on a new Falcon, but you realise you can't afford to get a colour VGA monitor to go with it. You can use your old Atarl colour monitor to get 640 x 400 pixels In true colour, but you have to use the interlace mode and the flickering that this causes can be a bit of a strain on your eyes to say the least. What can you do?

Well, an excellent compromise is a VGA mono monitor. White you are going to lose out on the true colour modes of the Falcon, a mono monitor is a perfect choice for the music and direct to hard drive recording software that is now available You don't actually need colour to use 4T/FX D2D Edit or Cubase Audin

What's it like?

As always, System Solutions have been quick to see a gap in the market and have a reasonably priced, high specification EST SVGA 14 inch mono monitor available just begoing to be linked to your Falcon. It has the familar looking flat screen that many of the replacement ST mono monitors have, with just brightness and contrast controls on the front panel. The back panel is also sparsely populated. with recessed vertical size, horizontal position controls and a focus control to sharpen the image. The rear panel controls can only be adjusted with a flat bladed screwdriver, there really should be no need to adjust these controls because System Solutions check each monitor thoroughly before it is dispatched to a customer. The monitor is mounted on a sturdy tilt and swevel base

To connect the monitor to your Falcon you need to have the Atan VGA adaptor, if you don't already have one, it costs £9 95 from Atan LIK - it would be sensible for Atari to bundle all three monitor adaptors with the Falcon as standard. The monitor connects to the VGA adaptor which is plugged into the manitor port. Once connected you can power un the monitor and the Falcon

The picture on-screen is incredibly sharp, with excellent contrast between lighter and darker shades. It you have previously used an Atari mono monitor with an ST or TT you'll be instantly at home with this monitor Obviously, the lack of colour precludes much art and graphics use but the look of picture files on-screen

10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 IN

is very good. Programs like Calamus S and 4T/FX are instantly usable and the lack of colour makes no difference at all The monitor is very easy on the eve as there is very little plare or reflected light. Once again, System Solutions have come up with a superb product perfect for the Falcon. CUIVE DADKED



lothing specifica he Falcon althou C supplier can p nono VGA monit

ICD PROFESSIONA

SCSI

age device that

If you have a hard drive then it's highly likely that you have an ICD interface of some kind lurk-Ing within the case linking your ST to the SCSI drive. One of the advantages of the ICD interface has always been the high quality of the utility software supplied with It. It is undoubtedly the best set of hard drive utilities available for your ST.

Until now, the ICD utilities have only worked with hard drives with a built-in ICD host adaptor, the new professional version now works with all SCS hard drives that have been booted using ICD Boot Pro. This means that you can use this excellent set of utilities if you have a Mega STE, a TT or a Falcon030.

What you get

The basic utilities comprise of version 6 0 8 of the software supplied with all CD SCSI host adaptors including the ank, the hard disk maintenance program, ICD Cleanup, and a new program which enables SCSI drives to be extensively tested and edited.

Also supplied are the Atan MetaDos CD-ROM drivers and ICD's CD-ROM drivers enabling all SCSI CD-ROM drives to be connected to any ST with a interface

This means that #A major addition to the ICO utilities is the SCSI tester there is now no and editor. Apart from acting as a disk aditor, hard drive major SCSI stor- commands can be transmitted to any device.

cannot be used with your ST. The rest of the software consists of the standard ICD hard drive utilities, including a "guick and dirty" installation program, Accessory and CPX utilities, an eject program for Mac flopticals, the HDUtils program, the ICD Pro booter, an ID checker, a disk speed checker and a program to search your hard drive for specific files

The software is, without doubt, the best set of hard drive utilities you could wish to find for your ST. If vou're at all familiar with ICD software you will be able to use all of the programs immediately. The ICD Formatter, along with all the other utilities, checks the SCSI bus and identifies the specific drive ID, if you have more than one drive connected you select the one you wish to work with, It's all so simple, everything is provided to service and maintain your hard drive

Verdiet

All the utilities have simple point and click options in each program Replacing the Atan system software on a Mega STE with these utilities creates no problems replacing the falcon software, however, is not quite so simple - as soon as any of the other utilities tnes to access the SCSI or the IDE bus then the Falcon has a tendency to lock up. This problem has been rectified in the newly updated version, so make sure you don't get the early version. Apart from that, the ICD Professional utilities certainly live up to their name.

CLIVE DARKER



I Formatting or partitioning your drive is risky but the ICD Engrants makes it painless by calculating everything for you. Remember you can wipe data from a disk just by selecting the wrong option.



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RODENTS GALORE

There is likely to come a time when you need more control over your mouse. Take your pick

sing your ST's mouse for drawing can be like wearing boxing gloves when you're trying to type. Clumsiness could now be a hassle of the past with

the pen mouse, Created along the principles of the original tools, pen mice combine the comfort and control of real pens alongside the technology of the computer mouse.



PTICAL PEN MOUSE

This is an unmarket creature being slimmer and more compact than the Blo-Con Pen Mouse discussed just below. although the lead which connects it to the ST's mouse port is the same six feet long.

Because the optical pen mouse is lighter and smaller than that one, it is much easier to manipulate. Although it looks pretty much like a normal penmouse when you first look at it, on its underside, instead of having a ball, a little lamp shines down under the mouse onto a special mat provided. and optical sensors situated underneath pick up any movement made from reflections off the mat.

The mouse mat that you get with the mouse is treated with a fine black and white printed pattern which looks a bit like a miniature wire mesh, and unlike the usual soft foam finish, this mat is hard and smooth with a high gloss surface. The special optical pen mat is very neat and takes up a bit less room than a typical soft

This mouse is a very smooth operator indeed. Sliding the mouse about on its glossy mat feels pleasing, it positively glides over the shiny surface. and you don't have to press very hard. You can easily manage accurate control of the on-screen pointer, and you soon forget that you are holding anything, or that it's attached to your ST. Even though this pen is pretty expensive, it's the sort of tool any self-respecting ST artist should have BETER CRITER

Optical pen mouse

BIO-CON PEN MOUSE

Shaped like an extremely chunky pen, the Blo-Con mouse from Ladbroke Computing is moulded and styled to make it ural to manipulate - similar to the way in which you would

hold a real nep or a brush. At the end where you would reasonably comfortable and natexpect the nib to be, this pen mouse

has a plastic ball, in appearance it looks rather like a giant roller-ball pen, or a smaller version of a standard mouse's hall. When this hall contacts your mouse mat and the Pen Mouse is moved about, the on-screen mouse pointer is activated, so you can "write" with the pen and the pointer duplicates your actions on the monitor Ordinary SF mice have two big buttons but this mouse has three smaller buttons, mounted so that you can operate them with your finger Only two of them actually do anything, as ST mice only need two buttons. The whole thing works smoothly, even though it looks awkward and needs more contortions from your fingers. You can do all the usual mouse functions, like doubleclicking, dragging files about onscreen and marking blocks of text in a word processing program.

The pen mouse falls down somewhat in its design and shape. It's a touch too large, and the angle it makes with

the desk is too upright, making it rather awkward to use for long perinds. Its increases the leverage effect of the cable, which tends to pull the device backwards even though you need to keep it fairly upright for the roller-bali to work properly. If, however, you position your mouse mat in front of the ST keyboard, rather than to the right, the mouse becomes much easier to use

PETER CRUSH

Bio-Con Pen Mouse



What, a CD-ROM with delusions of floppyness? No, it's just an optical drive that works with your ST. Clive Parker takes it to pieces and ends up with a few bits left over...

It's norrelable how quickly you can, fill up your hard drive these que, sort 127 What with delatop publishing programs like Colomus and organities packages like DAS Vector you find yourself having to decide which applications to archive and which ones to remove from your drive. The worst it, you're bound to find that as soon as you remove or delete a file, you need it.

So, what's the answer? Well, you could always buy another, larger, hard drive. This used to be the only course to take but now there are a couple of other alternatives available in Earl Mayte foptical critic reviewed ast month is one option you could try, a ternatively you could get yourself a magneto-optical disk drive

A magneto-opto what?

A magneto-optical disk drive is a special type of SCSI optical drive which is a cross between a CD-ROM drive and a norma hard drive – the main difference being it uses removable optical disks capable of storing up to 128MBytes of information

One of the pitalis of CD-ROMs is that your ST can't save data to the aser discs because the crime is mixed to Read Only mode. A magneto-optical drive connected to your ST, however, is just the same as a heard drive data is written to or erased from the disk by normal file operations. The disk type of the same as heardly the same apart from being lower as theke a let like stacking two floopples on top of each other.

What's it like?

Power's magneto-optical drive is suppiled either as a standalone unit with 25-way D and 50 Centronics sockets, or as a bare drive which can be mounted in a tower case. The drive titelf uses an IBM mechanism with standard SCSI connections mounted in a sturdy steel case. The case contains the drive, power supply and fan and is reasonably quiet when in use in fact, you can't hear the drive being accessed at all, just the cooling fan. The only controls on the drive are the disk elect button, SCSI ID.

"Once you have three optical disks you'll have spent £1,170 and have 392MBytes of storage space"

switch and the power switch underneath. Neat and tidy

To get it working with your ST just use an ICD AdSCSI host adaptor and connect the drive to the external SCSI port of your ST and boot up the system. This is when you come up against a bit of a problem. As soon as you try installing the Deaktop drive icons so that your ST can read the optical drive your ST doesn't recognoe that the drive's there. All you need to do to get around this is use the ICD format software and your ST immediately identifies the drive and the optical disk without any problems. One point to note, the optical drive must always have a disk in it when booting the system, otherwise the partitions are not initialised.

I It's about the size of a sheebex

nd twice as

The final verdict

If you are using a hard driew with a SCSI through port with your ST hen you should have no problems connecting up the optical drive, you just need to get a SCSI to SCSI lead — Power Computing supply suitable leads if required. Sadily though this method of storing data is not going to be available for the Falcon until Atan upgrade their HD utilities to cope with this type of drive.

Optical drives are slower than hard drives, the average data transfer rate is 500k per second, about a third of the speed you get on modern drives, and the average access rate is 46ms, again about a third of the speed of a hard drive The mittal cost of getting the

external drive is high, and you have to add the price of an AdSCSI host adaptor to the price, it's no good getting the ICD Link because they just don't work together Extra disks are only £35 each

for a further 128MBytes of storage capacity – once you have three optical disks, for example, you'd have spent around £1,170 and have spent around £1,170 and have spent around £1,300 and have spent around £1,300 and have spent around £1,300 and have spent around £1,000 and additional hard drive

If you're desperate for more storage space and are likely to be needing more and more in the future, the magneto-optical drive could be just what you're looking for, that is if you're prepared to make the nefty initial investment assignment.

Optical drive

Power optical drive £999 external drive, £729 internal drive, one disk included Power Computing = 0234 843388

ICD host adaptor required Highs

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Doesn't work with the Falcon.
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CRAZY SOUNDS

Windows open with a swoosh, deleting files results in a burst of phaser fire and alert boxes scream "ne nene nene" at you in macking tones. Welcome to life with your ST running a brilliant new program from Germany.

Crazy Sounds is a fun Auto prooram and Desk Accessory combinafrom that assigns sampled sounds to the various GEM functions of your machine Different sounds can be assigned to individual keys, programs and most GEM events. You can even assign sound samples to play when a particular string of text appears in an alert box, window or in a program.

It sure is crazy

To use the program you need at least 1MByte of memory and TOS 1.4 or # German menus, huh? Well.

don't worry. It doesn't matter

because Crazy Sounds is

that the sound sample is

simple to use. The large box

neelened to the centre win-

the right enables you to set up the program parameters.

dow displays the samples available and the window on

on the left defines the actions

-19:Mi

you've created with your own sampler to the Centy Sounds HSN formed with the Crazy Sounds converter program. You can convert samples between signed and unsigned, you can re-sample them to new frequencies, lengthen or shorten tham con-

vert them between 16 and Shirt mone and storeo, and STEs can adjust the DMA volume, balance, bass and treble levels. As a bonus, the Crary Sounds converter has sampling software built-in.

above, the program does not work with older TOS versions. Sampled sounds are stored in memory.

Setting up is a doddle. You copy the CRAZYSND.PRG to the Auto folder of your boot disk with the CRAZYSND.INF file and copy the samples you wish to use to a folder in the root directory called, er. Samples If you are using a hard drive, copy all the samples to drive C, there are over

8 005 4 WELLS (1)

100 on three double-sided disks Finally, copy CRAZYSND ACC or CSNDMINLACC to the root of your boot disk. The main Accessory is used to set up the program parameters while the mini Accessory can be used if you are short of memory to toogle Crazy Sounds on and off

it's completely teapot

To assign a sound to a function, call the Crazy Sound DA and scroll through the various functions in the left window, click on one to choose it Now you can scroll through the sounds in the middle window until you find the one you want to use select it and click on the speaker to hear what it sounds like. If you like it save the setup to the INF file in the Auto folder And that's it

Crazy Sounds is not a serious program and is not intended as such. it's a fun program that brightens up your ST by giving it a touch of character Don't play it too loud though. you can get sick of the constant Star Trek battles taking place on the Desktop. We never thought that using GEM could be this much fun

CLIVE PARKER



79DM (send International Money Orders) Maxon Computer © 010 49 6196 4818 1 Maxon Computer GmbH, Jifdustriestr. 26, W-5236 Eschborn, Germany Eschborn, Germany
All STs with TOS 1.4 a
above, 1MByte RAM
recommended

JOHN THE COMPOSER

fittle halp from your fulnush John happy to monte munic that VPH CAR nen claim as your



Darris Secretaria

J 6

What do you need if you want to write songs? Talent - not necessarily: music theory - you can do without; your ST - essential.

If you've always fancied yourself as a bit of a composer but can't be bothered to do the hard work, why not let your ST do it all for you? John the Composer takes on the job of improvising music that you can then claim as your own... with as much of your own input as you want. John is basically a music-type

you can decide how much musical freedom you give him by composing in one of three modes The easiest mode - the one that requires least effort - is when you ask John to play new compositions continuously. These tunes can get quite tedious as John goes through a load of chord progressions, bass lines, drum patterns and melodies reminiscent of merry-go-round tunes.

You can produce better sounding and more personal compositions if you help the program along

a but Enter and edit the parameters for the song structure, chord selection and prooression, the bass line, drums and melody and John works within

Il This is John's nerve centre all parameters are changed via drop-down menus or by using the edit bar.

them to produce a tune which starts to sound promising, fust spot the bits you don't like, change the parameters accordingly until you're happy with the whole song. And there you go vou've just written a song.

Once you get used to the editing system and the parameters, you quickly realise that John can teach you a lot about writing structured pieces and improvisation. To get the best results you must use it with a full MIDI setup, If you don't have one, however, you can use your monitor or the audio stereo outputs if you have an STE, but, be warned, it doesn't sound very convincing

Verdict

If you're interested in creating music without all the bassle or if you want to learn about the art of improvisa-



tion, John the Composer could be just the type of help you're looking for DAVID ROBERTS

John the Composer

081 6911

and listening to the results is a very educational process

creates improvised lin over four track MID! # jozz Improviser, £149 Creative Sounds: Teaches real-time jazz Improvisation.

IMAGECOPY 2

How does taking screen shots grab you? Peter Crush snaps up an image utility and gives it the thumbs up...

creen snapping s just one of those things you never think about doing until you realise you actually need to

Here at ST FORMAT we use screen grabs all the time and import them straight onto the manazine's pages in our desistor publishing program using them as illustrations

If you use your ST mostly for graph is and art and are looking for a

With Imagecopy 2 you can display up to six GEM windows with a

good screen grabber, then take a

into an all-round image utility enabling you to grab images from screen in any mode and save them,

display aimost any image on al ST

screens via colour-mapping, print

mages in mono or colour on most

printers, and convert graphics

between the many file formats

This updated version has turned

picture inside them.

really useful way of converting, say, a Degas picture into the TIFF file format, or vice versa. A concise and clear 60 page A5 manual explains all of this as well as the software's many other nifty operations To install the Accessory version.

copy it onto your boot disk for a froppy drive system, or the boot parti tion of your hard drive. When you're boot your ST. the Imagecon 2 Accessory becomes avail able Both this and the

standalone version can be installed to display 2551228 byti mage fires on which you can double-click from the Desktop. This is dead handy when you all you want to do is take a quick ook at image files without having to load your

art programs Because Imageropy 2 works in all resolutions you can view pictures red to lon bluns T2 runy

wise display, like those produced in the five formats used on the Falcon Don't expect to see 16 million colours though, your ST can only show 16, so I pives you a rendal on of the picture via Imagecopy 2's colour mapping and dethering

Verdict

Tragecopy F Ir Botless

imagecopy 2 is the culmination of much effort, and it's been worth it There is no better way to grab, view, convert and print out images with your ST It runs on any ST, with any monitor, with most printers, and works with most image formats. What else could you want from an all-round



glarious colour. If you don't have a Falcon though, do not worry 'cos you got great quality image displays with all STs.

The full technicolour details

So, why is imagecopy 2 worth a FORMAT Gold rating? Well, for a stort it.

used to display images in with modes which contain fewer colours You can display Images in GEM wir dows or full-screen display modes

copy's Capy option – and then save them to disk. You can copy (mages a times when the Desk menu is low is displayed or from inside a program which does not provide access

dirings in black and white or colour on a wide range of printers. Imagicany 2 prints leagues containing up to 16.7 million different colours, and offers print scaling and a choice of helf tones.

screen monitors, and even the "vir-tual" large screens provided by programs such as MonSYEr and Big STE

Service 1 to Sert Spicess Pet 1

In this window you can fine tune the colour balance, the Image brightness, contrast, and the size and shape of

Imageoupy 2 £19.95 or £10 for the

upgrade from Imagecopy, 55 for the upgrade from Imagecopy Colour. The ST Club = 0602 410241 All \$Ts and Falcon030

Highs ■ Works on any system

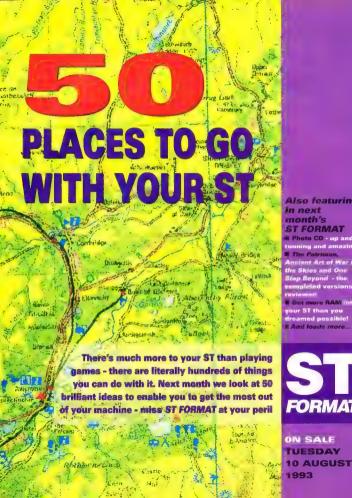
Displays most image

Can't save all of the formats yet. What else? All alternatives

come from the Pull Demain Freeze Frame is one of the best examples.

Multicoloured snap swaps impoecopy 2 can load and save images in many file formats and is a

WHAT'S NEW IN VERSION TWO



Also featuring in next month's ST FORMAT

Photo CD - un aird tunning and amazing

The Patrician, Ancient Art of War in the Skies and One Step Beyond - the

Get more RAM mic. your ST than you greamed possible! And loads more...



ON SALE TUESDAY 10 AUGUST

ST ANSWERS

Have you and your ST got a problem which is causing stress and worry? Tell the ST Answers team about it, they can help...







and games like those available on the PC? I know there are plans for a Falcon CD-ROM but I'm reluctant to spend all that money on a new machine rust. to run CD-ROM games. Stephen Bray, Wildnes

sef: You may be surprised to know that the ST can already use standard SCSI CD-ROM drives using MetaDos and ICD's CD-ROM drivers Both of these CD-ROM drivers are supplied with all new ICD AdSCSI host adaptors as part of the hard drive utilities. Unfortunately, nobody has written any ST compatible CD-ROM games vet, and it seems unlikely that anyone will be doing so in the near future. This is a pity because CD-ROM based gomes for the ST have a great potentlal. ICD SCSI host adaptors are avail-



software doesn't have Canon BJ-10au pelatas drivers. switch your printer to Foton LO neada and andrest Engage LO drivere from your anftware.

able from System Solutions (= 0753 832212), £99.95 with clock, £89.95 without clock and £79.95 for the Mega ST internal kit version.

Snotcher



I have a Canon BI-10ex and I would like a program that prints out screen shots. I cannot

print using some of the software I use because they don't have BI-10 drivers, how can I get around this? Robin Armstrong, Dumfries

sef: The new version of BIChrome is now available from Rufus Developments for £5. The program is up to version 2.5 and can now handle pic-

tures in GIF file format, for a copy of the program send £5 to Rufus Develanments, PO Box 562, Wimhourne, Dorset, BH21 2YD. To use your software with the BI-10ex select the Epson LQ printer drivers supplied, giving you 360 dpi output from your printer. If you look at your printer manual there are details of the DIP switch you have to change to switch it to Eason made

Commodore inklet



inkiet printer by a friend, can I use it with my 1040 STE? I need to use it with Protext Timeworks and First Word Plus, If I cannot use it with these

WORKSHOP This is the place where you save them to disk in a Random Access

queries and Mac Marsden answers them.

Tabulation

is there a command or way of send-Ing information to the printer to print text at a certain column and row like the PRINT AT(x,y) and LOCATE commands for showing text on the screen at column, row? Martin Baimer, Kent

is PRINT TAB(x), where x is the num ber of spaces from the left of the page before the text is printed.

Database one

I am creating a database from which I want to be able to input data into a number of different records. I then want to be able to save these records to a disk file, load each record and display it, one by one What's the best way to do this? Adrian Oldbury, Derby

sef: The best way we have found to do this is to allocate the same amount of disk space for each record and then

a pointer to a record number and then load it in, here's a short listing of the

- OPEN "r". #1. "PERONAL INF". 62 PIHLD #1.24 AS nameS.2 J
- FIRLD #1.24 AS roadS.12 -
- POR 1%= 1 to 3 INPUT "Name
- INPUT "House Number
- INPUT "Road LSET nameS=nS
- 10 LSET roadS-rS 12 PUT #1.1%
- 14 MRET 1% 15 CLOSE #1

Explanation of the listing. Line 1 - Opens the file in random mo-2 & 3 - Sets up the structure of the record, that is 24 AS name\$, sets 24 spaces for the name 4 - Do the following three times

5 - 8 Get data from keyboard

- 9 11 Sets data into named strings
- 13 15 Clear the screen, do the next input or close the file on disk

To read a record from disk you would alter the 1% loop to read;

GET #1, i% | read record 1% PRINT "Record number :":1%

PRINT "Name PRINT "House number

PRINT "Road PRINT "Town

CLOSE #1 Rather than using a loop you could also

set up the command word RECORD #n,r to point at a particular record to be read in, that is RECORD #1,3 would point to Record Three, ready to be

Please note that this method of loading and saving data is a lot slower than doing it sequentially.

ST PROBLEMS

HARD DRIVES Preud of your hig byte stering beest? Yee, but you're alon; basing trouble working with it programs then obviously it's a total waste of money. Alan Hawker, Barry

stf: A quick check with Commodore confirmed that the MPS1270 sunports both Epson LQ and IBM Proprinter emulations, all you need to do is select the Epson LQ printer drivers from within Protext. Timeworks and First Word Plus and away you go.

TOS switchers



I want to upgrade to a Mega STE from my STFM but I am worried about software compatibility, how much of my software is

incompatible? Can 1 install a TOS switcher into the Mega STE to retain compatibility? Dan Saunders, Oxted

est#: Some older games are not TOS 2.06 compatible and do not run on the Mega STE. Generally, all serious software such as word processors, DTP and MIDI programs work without any problems. Mega STEs are no langer manufactured, so you may find it quite difficult to get hold of one now. There is no TOS switcher available for the Mega STE.

I want to be a PC I have heard about the



Marentosh and PC emulators being developed for the Falcon, can you install both emulators and he able to switch between them freely? Will I be able to play PC games? Matthew Chequer, Wiltshire

#25: The two emulators that are under development both use the internal expansion slot inside the Falcan,

so you cannot install them both at the same time. Playing PC compatible games depends on how fast the PC emulator runs and whether it supports the screen modes required by

the game, the latest news we have about Falcon Speed from Compo is that it only runs in colour when using the popular Microsoft Windows. ®



Returning backwards I am writing an address book/diary

and word processor. Can you please help me with some queries?

key. When using this I cannot get the <Return> key to work, How can I make the text carry on to the next line when I hit the far right of the screen? Also when using the listing. when I backspace to the point the cursor started at, a message comes up saying "String to large" How do I overcome this

Aaron Glbbs, Devon

should help with your queries. The "String to large" message is because when you are deleting a character you are not deleting your pointer to overwrite the deleted letter, so the pointer would have been pointing at the next letter and eventually you would reach the end of your string length.

sets: The annotated listing below

line counter
wait for keypres
backspace

PRINT CHR\$(8); " "; CHR\$(8); !

IF al-13 I return key PRINT | arint legal chr\$

PRINT CHR\$(all) ADD counters, 1 ! increase IF countera>=80 ! checkend

PRINT ! LOOP (put your exit condition here)

Out of sorts How can I sort some addresses into alphabetical order and save them? William R Mogg, Gloucestershire

sets: The annotated listing below should help you sort your array(s) into alphabetical order. Bear in mind that if you are using a paumed statement for more than one dimension, that is DIM a\$(100,7), more programming is required, and temps has to be DISIMed as temp\$(1,7) and you have to pro-

DIM as(5) 208 fel 20 S PRINT "name no. INPUT as(f) NEXT 6 PRINT "Unsorted array" POR f=1 TO 5

recursive sort routing

IF aS(pointers) >aS(pointers+1) ... termSwaS(pointers) place as (pointer&) In temp storage

aS(pointer&)=a\$(pointer&+1)| J swap aS+1 into aS a\$(pointers+1)=temp\$ place tamp\$ Into as+1 ENTOIF

I Increose pointer LOOP UNTIL 1 loop until pointer >=8. 1 THE SEP TEXT | reset pointer t end recursive sort PRINT "Sorted array"

*** We are reducing a by one as after the initial pass we know that at position a\$(5) is held the string with the highest ASCH value and we have no need to

ROB 7-2

print sorted array

PRINT aS(f)

compare it again with the other strings, hence the name recursive sort.

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OPTIONAL!

reaches two complementary states, These features: It Accounts to a power of the state company of the state of the state of the state of the three states of the state of state state





Call Compo on # 0480 891819 for the latest details and specs for Falcon Speed.

Never a cross word Do you know of any software that helps solve crosswords by printing all English words that match the letters entered in this kind of pattern. *RM*T? My STFM has a single-sided finding missing letters for crossword clues but it does possess SECTION S. turdend nurse in its Options

B We not actually

drive, so I need the program on a single-sided disk. Martin Benchley, Kent

sstf: You should upgrade to a double sided drive! They aren't very expensive and are simple to fit. Power Computing (= 0234 843388) supply the PC7201 drive for £39.95. Doing this gives you easy access to all ST software, hardly anything is released on single-sided disks these days.

The program you are looking for is called Word Finder, we awarded

it 72% in last month's Public Sector pages and it does exactly the sort of thing you've been looking for. It's available on disk GD1925 from Goodmans International PDI /8 0782 335650) for £2.75.

Amstrad inaction



Where can I buy an Amstrad CPC464 emulator for the ST? I would like to play all my old favourite names.

Richard Robinson, Worcs stf: There has never been an

Amstrad CPC464 emulator available for the ST and it is unlikely that anybody will actually produce one. As with Mac and potential PC emulators. even if one was written, it is unlikely that you could use it to play games

Bare problems

I have been given a bare 20MByte hard drive from an Amstrad PC. How do I CTURING connect it to my ST and what do I need to buy to get it working? How does my ST know I want to save files to the hard drive? Kevin Bailey, North Yorks

self: It depends on what kind of hard drive you have. If it is from an old Amstrad then it's either an MFM or an RLL drive. If it is one of these then you have to get an MFM to SCSI adaptor or an RLL to SCSI adaptor, these are very expensive and hard to find, you're better off buying a second-

Format a new disk and mark it Maic S. New put the Cover Blok in the drive and enouse that it's writested, the Cover Diek is Mink A. Dates the Drive A selectory by Herbit. Molding in the Happy tilak A loon

Alle Control

Open the folder you wish to copy Mos from by deuble-olisions on it. Penna the elitific hay, and, knoping it

pressed, single-eliek on each of the files until they are all highlighted. Meer where the Shifts been

Clink on any of the highlighted Mee, and, lessying the mouse feation proceed, move the pointer smill It is over the Seppy sligh & less. When the disk less torns black release the

64 [[G]GF]]

An alert bex appears tolling you that you are marring flies to o II, oliek on OK. Your ST new ne you to put disk I into drive A, do the and select OK. Fellow the instructions will all the fline heres been applied.

Your top ten questions

STOM upgrade
Is there a hardware
upgrade that turns on STEM
Into an STE?

mtfz No, there are too many

major differences between the

I have brought a second-hand Never heard of these unities from a friend/asse. tlon/csr boet sale, can I use it with my \$17

attr Any printer with a parallel interface, also known as Contro-ics, can be used with your St to print text from the Desktop. Whether you can use it with you word processors or graphic soft ware depends on whether it has Egson or IBM Proprinter emula-tion builts all softens cofficient tion built-in, all serious softwan has printer drivers for these machines. Always make sure you get a minual with a second hand printer

With the same and the same at all falcon, will strong the same at a falcon formation to release formation of the same to release formation of the same at a falcon formation of

stf: We have no plans to change the name of the magazine in the foresecoble future. We are going to continue to review Falcon hardware and softwore as and when it is released as well as

hring you news on Aturi's new machines - clinck out this month i news section starting on page /

Those been given a CGA monitor from an old PC, can be connect it to my ST?

mEF. No. your ST provides and NGE signals while PC CGA mon-tors use TTL (alighted) signals for its Imput. Also, PC monitors do not have any speakers so your machine will be silent.

Mite'n motor to magnetic I nor queing to magnetic STE to 2MBytes of RAM, can use the two 256K SIMMs already in my STE with my so IMByte SIMMs to give me 2.5MBytes?

met: No, the only possible RAM, configurations for the STE are 0.5MByte (2×256K), 1MByte (4×256K), 2MByte (2×1MByte) and 4MByte (4×1MByte)

Is there an Amiga emi

er for the ST that can enable ne to play Amiga games? mee: No, the only emulators available for the ST are IBM P

and Macintosh emulators. The one mecintain eminetors, the Amiga has too many custom chip to make an emulator economical it would probably be cheaper to actually buy an Amiga.

Where can light a SCART and audio lead to connect m ST to my TV, my TV menitor and my hi-fi system?

setf. An excellent source for every early on compositive require to lead you can possibly require to decimence. All you have to do in tell them what type of ST you have along with the make and

model of your IV or monitor and they can provide the correct less if they don't have a roady made land in stock then they can make if for you, Contact Machinere on 05/521/2202.

B Hy felings said that I can play PC/Amiga/Spectrum/ pames on my STE, is he right/

destributes can only play games designed specifically for tham, it we muchine could play oil for-mats then there would be no nea for superate sholves in the game shore, would there?

are, would there?

There are amulators for se rachines (PC and Mac), but merally these are not power argle to let you play o

t am having problems with my mouse pointer, the arrow goes up when it sheat so down. Where can I get a replacement mouse?

att: it's not your mouse at mi, it's the dreaded Ghost virus. Ge-yoursalf a virus killer like the tivk (ithimate Virus Killer) from Dou-glas Communications (= 061 456 9587), it only costs £9.99 and can safeguard your software.

37F WARNING: Never use a virus
lifter on a game disk, the virus
killer wipes your game because it
ooks like a virus.

Mose to I copy files from the ST FORMAT Cover Disk to a blank disk? I have tried severa times but I cannot do It. I den have an external disk drive.

mEST Follow the four steps, right, to copy your ST FORMAT Mes to a blank disk.



ASSEMBLY POINTERS

et your assembly programs tock on the track this month with Tony Wagstaff

in a high level language the STOS variables are assigned values quite sh ply, 10-260 for instance, in assembly there in 'c a similar command, so vari

in pages format of a man running, and I would like to knew how to move them around the screen is

The mosk that? It used to call a hole miss the background objects, the spritz leaf can their be dropped into this hole removing the sprites border which restaid otherwise be seen Delials to useful otherwise be seen Delials to useful principles can be followed in the month's essentially tutorial on page 97.

hand bare 40MByte SCSI hard drive for around £75

The kit required to connect a SCSI hard drive to your ST consists of a case (£35), a power supply (£35), a SCSI host adaptor (£59), SCSI and DMA cables (£6 each). All of these Items are available from Gasteiner Technologies on ≈ 081 3651151.

Y Board diek

I took advantage of your Soup Up Campaign by upgrading my STFM to TOS 2.06 using a T_Board. In the README file on the disk supplied with the upgrade it states that I would receive another disk and a manual, to this day I have not received anything. Sean Huxley, Stockport

mes: We have passed your details onto Compo Software and they are sending the TOS 2 06 manual and the upgrade disk to you.

Data may be damaged

I'm having trouble with my second-hand hard drive and my 4MByte THE PERSON STE. I occasionally get the message "data on drive C may be damaged" when saving a file, I have to re-boot the system losing the file I tried to save. Is it my hard drive or my DMA chip causing the problem? B Adams, Leeds

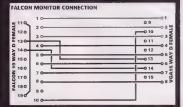
sets: It certainly sounds as if it is the DMA chip causing the problem, contact Atari customer services on # 0753 533344 and they can arrange



Il Diamond Edge is an excellent hard drive maintenance utility, keep your date in pristine condition by performing regular medical checkups on your drive.

Due to one of those errors that occur occusionally, the Faign

to VGA monitor connections we printed in STF 46 were slightly incorrect. These are the correct connections



for your machine to have a replacement DMA chip fitted. It is always a good idea to have a hard drive maintenance program like Diamond Edge or ICD Cleanup ST available to check your hard drive partitions. Diamond Edge Is available from HiSoft (# 0525 718181) for £49.95 and ICD Cleanup ST is available for £29.95 from System Solutions (# 0753 832212).

It's electric

I foolishly touched my MMU and Video Shifter chips when I was in the middle of upgrading the

memory of my STFM. Now my ST doesn't work because I was carrying a static charge when I touched the chips. What is the cheapest and best way to get my machine working again?

K Eaton, Liverpool

stf: There is no such thing as a cheap repair! All repairs are subject to charges for parts, time and labour The best thing you can do is get your ST looked at by a company that specialises in ST repairs. Ladbroke Computing are nearby and they offer an excellent repair service with a minimum charge of £35.

Cracking up

The main circuit board The main circuit board of my STE has been cracked directly below the keyboard, this means I cannot use my machine. How much would a replacement circuit board cost and where would I get it from?

James King, Gwynedd

stf: You need to write to Atan UK giving them the exact details of your problem and they will provide you with a returns number so you can send your ST to them to be exomined. After that they will contact you and quote a price for what needs to be repaired. Write to Customer Services. Atari UK, Atari House, Rallway Terrace, Slough SLZ 5BZ



Width does matter



I have been using the K-Spread 2 spreadsheet on ST FORMAT Cover Disk 36 and I find it very good except for one small problem, I cannot adjust the width of the columns. How is it done? Steve Fahy, Southampton

sets: The answer to this problem is actually quite simple. Each pair of columns has a vertical dotted line separating them. To widen column A click and hold the mouse painter over the line between columns A and B and drap the line to the right, release the mouse button when column A is wide enough. This operation must take place at the top of the spreadsheet between the column markers. you cannot widen columns from within the spreadsheet arid itself.

Video star



Why can't I get a clear Image when I connect my STFM to my video recorder using RF (aer-

ial) leads? All I get is a snow filled Image, even though I have tuned the video correctly. Cath Jones, Essex

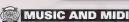
ser: The problem that the ST and the video both output RF signals on UHF channel 36 and the signals Interfere with each other Most videos have an output frequency control on the back panel which enables you to adjust the output channel between 32 and 40. Remember to adjust your TV to receive the new video channel.

Alternatively, you can connect your ST to the SCART or phono inputs of your video recorder, this gives much better output quality for video record-Ing. Meedmore (# 051 521 2202) supply a standard ST to composite video lead suitable for phono inputs (part no K2054, £8) and an ST to TV SCART for videos with a SCART socket (part no K2583, £15).

• If you have a problem you would like the ST Answers team to tackle then send it In to ST Answers. ST FORMAT, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 2BW.



Il That's the way to do it, grab the line between columns and drag it until it's the size you want. It's simple once you know how.



Palking ST

Could you hall two of any speach syn-thesters available in the Puber. Domain or a commercial program. I need it to be able to output from my hi-fi, I have an STE. David Fawhert, Barnsley

check out our directory on page 95. It works on your 57E and outputs the, sound into the price scenes of the back or your computer. The special grainty is not wonderful, but it is assiny tinderstandable.

ünderstandable. Femer is wao in spiench synthesizer crilled Digi Spiench which tries sampiedi spiench phemiumes, yan duniel up inc. wards by adding the sounds together. It's on itse GD624 from Goodmans International. (# 12/82 333630) who International. (# 12/82 333630) who

and am quite interested in the music place of the computer. I have no equipment as such and want to know what equipment I would need to confidence music on the o create rave music on Decian O'Moore, Co Tipp

proces grade masse. Samples are record

There a 520 STFM and a musical key feeling which I have just bought receivily. I want to connect the key town to key ST. The keyleard bu

Could you lindly sand-fear wiring diagram of how t nect my system including what leads to buy. Also, could you recommend a perticular sequencing program Stefan Salika Maka

re all set to have entiless L. Sit back and entovi

amended the best of best work

Minimum Memory
of I lay a second-hand 520 STE to
use for music production, what do
nave to upgrade it to
Andrew Davies, Clwysl

mete: Most sequencies run quite hap-ney with Thillyte of RAM, this is really the minimum you should be looking at or serious write.

method of producing backing tapes of samples that I could take into the

redistic sounds, including elemity endistic sounds, including elemity interest somples. Use a good software sequencer me breakfuru (£1995) in FORMAN special offers on page and elemity you get Yeu con most some great sounding elemits to wi you con add live sounds ferter on.

extr. in a word, ms. Direct to alkis recording requires the access times and stata bransfer rates of a good hard drive. Roppy drives are just too slow. Yome Gleect to oast recording systems require 10MBytes of disk space acc Some direct to aux recording systems impairs 10MBytus of disk space pin minute at recording three, so the /201 capacity of a floopy drive would not be sufficient to record more than six or seem something of more than six or seem something in more than six or seem something.



SHOP AT 120m Computer _ ATARI ST Date MYDDLETON Title Price ROAD WOOD GREEN Postcode: Tel: Price LONDON Card No: Price MOST ANICO. Price Exp Date Account No: 081 889 9172 P&P Access Visa Cheque P.O's 171 VISA

MAY YARY

Hot released at time of going to press



SCREEN PLAY



We've got some fabulous games for you this month, including cover star *Lemmings 2*

Not Mend ests, alsope and drinks ST games, improves accommonating, or for an honors opinion of analy list, he've year man.

Forget Street Fight

you allowed the playing over 17. Where's seems has seed a Levenninger 2 these sec to forcets of pure.

unadulticated guiding bline. Hood you ask for more? Fore to page 8



io. Il yen lake kr^alle, yen're geing to ye likh. Yuru te name 70 mmr.



REACH FOR THE SKIES for on the corth takes to the older I Virgin's Hottle of British Hight sin sin. Hollyo the days of the degriph

TIP

have and assert Name and and

TIP starting on page of followed by the incredibly knowledgeable Captain Blunder on page 80

in Blunder on page 46 hustors hints, tips and cheat

More blats, tips and cheats for those brain-frazzingly tricky ST games.

MA complete solution to Sensible Software's totany barmy Wizkid.

Some handy tips for FORMAT Gold winning god game Civilization.

Every Dyna Blaster level code you're ever going to need. Probably

A comprehensive cheat fer classic

■ And heaps of pokes, cheats at tips for all your favourite games. Your executed guide to Captain Blunder's page.

Zan/t fie

amazingly brilliant this game is, but you lit anywhere

Everybody knows it's the taking part in a game that's the most ant mart... or is it?



General
So you've get a
gaming problem, but it's
y to do with



Techie Your ST giving you grief when



You don't want to cheat, but



18714184







SPF REVIEW POLICY - It S. ST FORMAT policy to only review completely findshed games - that is, games you could actually buy in the shopnews incomplete or demo versions. We won't be readed factor reviewing ambidded games to best one "competition". We assume all games run on \$20 STFMs unless otherwise stated.

Select the world you want to play in from the man screen have You are then presented with the worlds that you can see dotted Officer Officer pages - identify them by their

number here.



Keep your lemms under control

Select everything easily - fast point and click

Name of the type of lemming selected. Number of times remaining that you can use the skill selected.

skills you can choose from

Selection of lemmin

Fan to blow lemmings Speed up time so you can hurry all your lemms

home if you have created a Nuke the lemms when you've put them into an ossible position.

Pause the game to look

MING

After months of waiting, Lemmings 2 is finally here. Paula Richards tries to rescue the green-haired creatures...

e've been promising it for months and at last, it's finally here - Lemmings 2, the game the cynics said couldn't possibly be bettered. How could Psygnosis improve on the immediate playability of the original Lemmings, the great humour, the enjoyable graphics and pixelperfect animation? You might think you need convincing, but as soon as you load up the game and realise that every step towards completing a level counts towards a final goal and that you can proceed towards that goal from 12 different worlds employing over 50 different skills of lemming the possibilities look very enticing. And once you've been enticed you're going to find it very difficult to leave the land of the lemming.



WORLD: Go on? Surfin' and all that the obloks sarbble somen

Small, stupid, but very cute Lemmings, as we know, are very stupid small rodents who live in Norway and rush headlong into the sea and drown when they're supposed to be migrating. So it wouldn't be surprising if you didn't have much sympathy for these creatures, but the lemmings who have had to learn to survive in the differing landscapes of Lemming

Island have developed so many complex skills that it's hard not to feel a depree of compassion for them. The main problem they seem to have though is that they simply haven't learned how to work in teams and help each other out and that's up to you

The basic aim of each of the 120 levels is the same as in the original Lemmings: they drop

fourth level to contend with.

AND STREET, ST

II OUTDOOR WORLD Lots of healthy

tresh air but also an Impossible













W. Coloredon LEMMING WORLD: Yes neeble. torio lam minas?





different part of Lemming Island. through a trap door and you have Every tribe has a piece of the talisto guide as many of them as you can to the exit - usually a door or a man - so you've got to get at least building - within a usually-generone member of each tribe through ous time limit. This time though. to the final level to join up with the you only get 60 of them and you other 11 pieces. When the comhave to get as many as you can plete talisman is created the tribes through the level because only that may then escape. Depending how many lemmings you rescue at number survive into the next level. each level you get a different More ontivation! type of talisman piece - lots of This time there's also a plot to tie lemmings rescued means you the whole thing together and give get a gold piece, but if you've led others to their death, how

gold talisman and free all the creatures - but that's likely to take you a very long time

Little local difficulties Of the many excellent things about Lemminas 2 one of the best is that you can just get straight into the puzzle solving - you know exactly what lemmings you've got with what skills (and how many times you can use each skill) - and it's dead easy to become engrossed to the point of never wanting to leave your ST. Some of the earlier puzzles are simple to solve - you only need to do a couple of things to lead the

lemms to the next bit of the world

but some of them

impossible - like the first sports level, for example where you are blessed with only a flame thrower and three bombers and find all your lemmings being chucked to their death with no apparent way to stop it happening.

Sometimes you can see what you actually want to do but have got so many lemmings in such a small space that they're indistinguishable from each other and you can't click on a single one that's pointing in the right direction. If you take your chances and click on a random lemming, the chances are that he'll be facing the wrong direction and blast all the other lemms with fire, or whatever other skill you've endowed your creature

seem virtually with. Although this doesn't seem to in # SPACE WORLD: Go to places that no man has gone before (or add your own Star Trek referencel... you might not find man, certainly, but there are enough lemmings to populate a planet - mayba that's where the Klingons come from







n made of formulas tress affect your fellow lemms it can be a waste of resources. The quality of your monitor also helps here - if

merge together even more freely

Considering the size of the lem-

blurred together more frequently.



resilience. Size doesn't necessarily determine how easy or difficult a level is, either - some of the single screens are the worst, it's best to work out what sort of area you're

Enter the world of...

Each of the levels is a different size and shape: some are only a single screen, some are several screens long horizontally, some several screens vertically and others are huge in all directions. The vertically-scroiling levels are hardest with huge drops you don't know whether lemms are going to survive until you've tried their

yours is a bit dodgy they seem to playing in when you start the level mings and their incredible detail. it's amazing that things don't get

> "It's massive. brain taxing, funny... and brilliant"

and where the exit is. Don't be fooled when you come across a level and get loads of each skill although sometimes they can indicate you're going to need them all. they're frequently red herrings.



Lemmings 2 is a huge game with so many different levels, varied worlds with very strong identities and heaps of humour in the personalitycrammed lemmings that it's difficult to find fault with it. You're certainly never going to get bored with it - there are so many bits and pieces and ways of doing things

different areas of the game time and time again. It's accessible everyone will want to play it, even if it's only to experience the satisfying thrill when you've nuked a whole tribe of lemms having got them into an impossible situation.

You can feel smug after each level because you've achieved something: the controls are easy to use and explanations simple. The whole thing is tightly out together and the attention to the most minute details is impressive - for example when a lemming is about to explode or when you've nuked them, they start shaking their hearls and bodies in a I'm-just-petting-ready-to-die-and-if-I-concentrate-on-my-body-shaking-maybe-lt -won't-hurt-so-much sort of a way. And when you do nuke them the results are impressive - all the landscape is damaged bit by bit - you're left with a shell of the level.

Take Lemminas 2 on for a quick brain-testing session every day for months or you can sit down and try and sort the whole lot out in a mammoth Lemmings-rescue effort. Unless you're the programmer, however, it'll take you weeks to work through it all. Graphically, it looks brilliant - massive bright

II CIRCUS WORLD. Tricky one, this Watch out for that propeller thing on the top hit of the platform - it has this tendency to shoot your lemms out our non-hall files

heach and outdoor worlds contrast with the dark and damp caves and the Egyptian and Classic levels add a bit of culture. The atmosphere of all the levels is enhanced by themed tunes, relevant to the world you're in. It's massive, braintaxing, funny and visually and sonically brilliant. Even if you only buy one single game this year, this has to be it. You won't regret it. set



S EGVETION WORLD: Lawwe come out of three trapdoors in this land of pyramids and the Sphinx.





solid atons in this world - just as well you get some tough lemms.





AMAZING TEA EGG! THIS GREAT THING COULD BE YOURS FOR ONLY £1 95!

alloy bandle. Promy als will facilitate easy retrieval of your tea. Amorey, it is 't designed to keep you is so

Finely tooled, stainless steel chain. Available in geld, pig-from and copper-look. Even the heaviest tea portions will fail to hersels this high quality linkage. But it can't tell you about the new Marie naces, the very latest games in the areades, and it has never interviewed Bob Hoskins.

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One of the most eagerly awaited adventure games of the year arrives on your ST.

Rob Mead puts on his leather lerkin and takes a look

shor: Legend of the Fortress was one of the gaming highlights of last year. French programmers Silmarils conjured up a deeply atmospheric role-playing game which plotted the trials and tribulations of five adventurers and their lourney across a mythical land. This FORMAT Gold winning game also set the scene for an inevitable sequel - and here it is.

Ishar 2: Messenaers of Doom finds the Isle of Kendorla enjoying a much deserved peace. The foreboding fortress of Ishar has been transformed into a leading cultural centre and spreads Kendoria's influence beyond its shores to the six other lands.

Things start to go terribly wrong, however, when an evil drug syndicate start foisting mind-altering pills on the unsuspecting population, bringing the lands to the brink of anarchy. As Zubaran -Ishar's ruler - it's your job to round up four like-minded adventurers and defeat the syndicate, bringing

peace and prosperity to your kingdom once more

The game drops you in the deep end as soon as you start - you witness a cowardly and brutal attack on a defenceless pirl by a gang of thugs. You're powerless to help, so you head north to the nearest village to recruit members of your team and buy much needed equipment, Irvan's Island is an eerie swamp-infested land filled with vicious lizard men and killer insects. You're given a host of cryptic clues to unravel, once you do, you can escape from the land and set sall for Zach's Island, a bustling cityscape filled with houses, taverns and shops. Here you can build up your team's combat experience and discover the many clues, maps and artefacts which are going to help you on your quest.

Ishar 2 is a massive adventure which claims to be three times larger than its predecessor. In addition to the swamp and city worlds of Irvan and Zach there's a myr

lad of dungeons and villages to explore, as well as mountains and a Tree City to traverse. Each landscape is filled with its own peculiar inhabitants - zombies, skeletons, giants and pterodactvls, for example - and treacherous pitfalls to overcome. This is one serious game-playing experience.

Character psychology

The key to any role-playing adventure is your ability to mix and match different characters in your team. One of the main features of Ishar 2 is the introduction of complex character psychology

Il You travel to each island by bost from Innal harbours remember to buy a sick had from the chemist's

Each person you recruit has their own distinct personality and attributes. When you choose your team you have to take racial tensions and personality conflicts into account since these affect a character's willingness to help another when in trouble - an elf may be unwilling to heal a wounded orc, for example. You can even spark off a series of murders within your team by assassinating a well-liked character. As well as having different

personality profiles, your characters also possess a wide variety of skills associated with them - there

are warriors, thieves,

scholars and magiclans who can play a part in the successful outcome of your quest. High level. experienced warriors are crucial in combat situations, for instance, white magicians are useful for creating powerful spells and potions.

Another new feature found in ishar 2 is its self-mapping facility. This means you no longer have to wander aimlessly around a landscape trying to find clues for your quest. Each island has its own map - accessed via the Action menu bar - which ensures you know exactly where your team is in relation to

the total game area. The Action menu also enables you to give first aid to your characters, as well as recruit, dismiss or assassinate them

Intuitive adventuring If you've never played an

adventure game before, Ishar 2 can be a daunting experience The screen consists of a main game window featuring a 3D landscape, as well as a series of mouse-controlled menus which enable you to arrange your characters and access their individual inventories. After an hour's play, the control system becomes second nature and you're soon belting around each Island, slashing baddles and plecing together the puzzling information presented to you. Although Ishar 2 is stylistically

similar to its predecessor, Silmarils

II A fire monater Hou in wait at the entrance of the Carrie Cost a Fire Pretection spell o debat ble











S The swamp world of Irvan is home to these unsavour lizard men





Fatally wounded, the hapless victim offers you her pendant before she dies.









Time is Zubaran - your character - checking out his neighbours' now satellite didli-



notarious places for picking up focal gossip and recruiting advanturers for your quest.

have managed to conjure up an entire new universe to immerse yourself in Highly detailed, realistic graphics combine with atmospheric sound effects to produce a very involving game-playing experience All the locations in the game - city, mountain or swamp have a very different feel to them and you can't help but be

lot of tedious slagging around the Islands in the early stages of the game as your characters gather experience points and pick up the various clues lying around There are also plenty of plot turns and twists as well as sub-adventures for you to get involved in so you don't feel bored for long. Because Ishar 2 is largely icon

and menu-driven, using a keyboard or mouse is your best option - the joystick emulation is not recommended Gameplay can be a little slow because of the complex 3D graphics and frequent disk accessing. This means gameplay can be a little lerky, although installing the game on a hard drive improves things considerably. One major improvement to the game is the Save Game option - you no longer have to squander your precious gold on saving the game and you can save as many times as you like. You can also import your characters from the first Ishar into your new adventure. This appears to have been

enthralled by what's going on. The only drawback is there's a



There are a wide variety of shops in taker 2 which enable you to buy food, clothing weepons and even pets.

Fall in your quest and you could spend the rest of your days pushing up the dainles. included at the expense of the quality of the high res option - the clarity of the mono image is not as pood as it was in Ishor 7.

Manufiles

Ishor 2 is a sprawling role-playing adventure which manages to build on the success of its FORMAT Gold winning predecessor. With eight islands for you to explore, Ishar 2 is an absorbing and atmospheric challenge which is going to keep you at your ST for months. The only drawbacks are the screen refresh rate and constant disk accessing, making gameplay a little slow at times. All In all, this is an adventure which has to be experienced. sef

- ishar 2: Population .

■ Your friendly manager's always keen to take money off you. You can get It hack by launcil ing a daring robbery.



Dungeons, dragons and icons

Ishar 2's main game screen Iouks a little bewildering a first, lint it's a doddle to in

- STATUS SAN Gives year lengther
- SO GAME SCHOOL
- CHARACTER PORTING This is what your ali ters look like. Pretty, sk?
- CHARACTER STATUS Charle sails please psychic and physical levels experience and money hald
- MARICAL ABILITIES draids opn opet a variety of poolis which are indicated from
- CHARACTUR'S ITUMO HELD Tollo you what items outh character is surroughly holding – potestie
- ACTION (MINIO Enables years MADE AND

- team. The Red Cross is used for seeling characters, while the
- accessinate characters in your at loop canbles you to segree abor 2's mapping system. DISK ACCESS
 Enables you to save, load
 - or start a new geme. A feerth ption enables you to import COMPASS
 Tells you which
 - rest re europeiiv fanise
 - PIGHT STRATEGY ICOM our characters in a variet
 - Click on one of the sight evement leans to move you im through the 3D lettilecare
 - FIGHT PANIEL pack in turn to ottock

Dressed up and no place to go

Til.

E house to

and the same of th

glass program and the same of the same of

F--



FOR

THE

REACH

Practise those David Niven impressions - keep that upper lip stiff and get those kites airborne in

this simulation of the Battle of Britain

SKIES



I that computer assisted stuff with fancy headup displays. radar and guided missiles here. We all piston engines, sheep skin jackets and skill, Chooks away, you fellows.

ar is undoubtedly a thor-oughly unpleasant thing, but swooping around machine gunning things in a simulation of aerial combat is great fun - strange but true.

Reach for the Skies puts you right in the thick of it. It's a comprehensive re-creation of the Battle of Britain, where the Luftwaffe tried to subdue the Royal Air Force before the invasion of Britain could begin. You can play the pilots or controllers of either side. The pilots get three lives to make it through the war and the controllers have to maintain or destroy the British fighter force, depending on which side they're on.

It's a game you need to approach in a determined manner, there's a respectably fat manual to read and a card showing the mass



located the squadron's ter urn. We strike at dawn, one good hit could swing the whole war in our favour." The German controller plot

This is your kite and what a beauty it is. You can get an external view at any time and take a good

look at your plane.

of keyboard controls you need to master. You need at least 1MBvte of memory to run Reach for the Skies and having a hard drive or two disk drives helps a lot.

Scramble scramble

After having decided which side you're on, it's time to give yourself a name and pick which phase of the battle you want to start in, The later you start, the higher your rank and the more realistic the game. You are briefed on a mission and off you go swooshing about, hunting down the enemy and blasting away while you try to stay out of the drink. You can opt to miss out the take off and landings and stick to the punch-ups which is a blessing if you're not terribly patient

Although there are lots of controls to remember, flying about



ing behind a group of Stukes. There are options to reduce your chances of success with things like restistio flight and limited ammunition, bahl



for - a Stuke deed in your sights. Getting into a good firing position isn't easy, you've only a second or two to get a good shot in.

you'd want on your side in a screp, akem. You can practice without rulning your war career, go for it proper or try for the big one by playing the normality as well as daing a bit of flying.

II The sort of chape







desperately rea copies of Engle comics in a franti effort to pick up some useful hints on stratogy, battle taction and autob insults for foreigners.

Ginger's top ten tips for survival

Liston, you sprogs, here's some fully. old tuctic stuff you follows might find maint. It's de aust thank and we don't want you kites on the firm day, do no: what?

Keep the sun on you attack is gives you the deled advantage of incruasing the expelse when you

Don't look ants too much teep your eyes on the berizen scan ning for bandits.

Don't fly straight and level unless years damn sure there are no bandits out or you'll e a sitting deci

with the to spend all your time over-compai sating for your last





B The battle of Britain was fought in four distinct phases. You can start in any one but the difficulty gots progressively harder.



III An external view of a Heinkel 111. The 30 vecto graphics are fairly STREET, SQUARE, SQUARE, nicely shaded You need to get glose to the fight ers to identify thorn and sucid emberrassing



is easier than you'd expect. You control your kite with either keyboard, joystick or mouse and there Isn't masses of technology to get bogged down in. Apart from firing the guns and adjusting the throttle there's almost nothing else to do when you're airborne other than concentrate on flying. The flight envelope and performances of the planes are supposedly realistic. If you start at the beginning of the battle the balance is swung in your favour. As a British pilot you get Hurricanes and Spltfires, while the Germans get to fly Bf 109 and Bf110 fighters, He111, DO17 and Ju88 bombers and the infamous Stuke dive homber

Apart from looking straight ahead, there are seven other views from your fighter cockpit. You need to keep switching to these to



In the big German bombers the tricky stuff of flying and bombing in all done automatically. You are left to man the machine guns and food off the awarms of fighters.

keep track of the other planes around you. Swirling around in three dimensions can all too easily leave you lost and easy meat for a fighter swooping from the sun and blasting you to bits while you are trying to get your bearings. Successful dogfighting takes practice. During the fight you get radio traffic appearing as text at the top of the screen. Your controller directs you towards enemies and your fellow pilots impart useful information like the fact that there is a bandit on your tall about to do nasty things to you

If you're not too careful you spend ages chasing little dots on the horizon only to catch up with them, overshoot wildly and end up getting shot to bits. You need to develop tactics - at the very least take your time and circle around



E You have plenty of different external views which you need to keep on eye on - don't panic, these crates are vour wingmen.

your fellow fighters, you can rotect each other's blind spots.

Take your time getting into a good attack ing position, try and swing around behind rather than golng straight le handfiret

When your muns are in range so are theirs keep the time your spend close to the nbers at a minimum.

it's very easy straight into a tar get, especially in a head-on pass. Get ready to pull out in

good time.

Turn towards an attacker rather than away. he overshoots and nu can try and get

II yattı süt. carper - you can always come back later. Brave but dead pilots are

utterly useless.

LEARN THE BANTER

an aircraft Sands of Year enomy aircraft inexperienced pilot Have now PASH KHE STICK THYWAY



III The conceptions a video at any time and your flight is saved to memory. All that hered of the bash you can watch your sents of alary from any angle and THE RESERVE

and try to get above the enemy The dogfights can get huge too, with up to a dozen planes fighting for position.

The job of controller sees you deciding which planes go where and attack what. You ponder over a map of south-east Britain directing the chaps before taking part in the battle yourself as any one of the pilots. The Luftwaffe controller needs to pick his targets and concentrate on getting the bombers through. The RAF controller needs to distribute his forces and get his boys past the defending fighters and in among the bombers

At the end of each day the state of the British fighter force is calculated. If it falls below a half of the initial strength, the Luftwaffe wins. Targets for the Luftwaffe Include radar installations, convoys that are bringing supplies and aircraft factories and well as the airfields themselves.

The 3D vector graphics are good, the ground detail is particularly stunning. The sound effects and the music are a step above the usual flight sim. There's even snatches of digitised speech which really adds to the atmosphere. The general feel of the game is excellent and the amount of background detail and realism is impressive.

Vardiet

There's no doubt that Reach for the Skles is a superb game. It's aiming for realism and a lot of work has obviously gone into trying to achieve this effect. It can occasionally crash when running from a hard drive which is annoying and combat can get a trifle tedious as you manoeuvre about for the best position and spend more time fly-Ing to the targets than in combat with them. Sometimes you also wish the planes didn't fly quite so realistically - especially when you overshoot an easy target. However, with practice you soon feel involved in the dogfights and learn to play as part of a squadron rather than a lone pilot determined to engage every enemy plane in the sky single-handedly. With the option to play both sides and the controller it should keep you going for a while Being a front line pilot in one of the most vital aerial wars ever fought is no job for the faint hearted, you need a stiff upper lip and plenty of hot mugs of tea but it's a whizzo wheeze, pip pip.

CHRIS LLOYD



COOL WORLD

Kim Basinger, eh? You can now get her on your ST thanks to Ocean's latest release. Rob Mead sighs pathetically

f you think cartoon land is full of lovable. fluffy bunnles being terrorized by dozy game hunters, think again. The doodles in Cool World have got evil on the brain and the destruction of human civilisation in their hearts

It all started when comic book creator lack Dweebs inadvertently created a parallel universe between the cartoon world and the real world. His doodles are now upsetting the cosmic balance by crossing over into the real world and stealing objects to take back. You play a cop called Harris and you have to stop the doodles' destructive behavlour before it's too late

Based on the film flop of the same name, Cool World is a platformer which takes the tension between reality and fantasy as its theme. You have to guide Harris around four levels of cartoon mayhem, traversing the divide between the real world and the cool world. where the doodles live.

The four levels are hidden behind 16 doors controlled by officious doodles who you have to bribe so you can gain access money is gained by zapping the many doodles which wander harmlessly around the streets. The doors are spread over different streets and access to each section is reached in a random, iliogical order. This has you wandering all over the place, although a map screen eases things considerably.

Once you enter a level you're confronted with swarms of manic



8 Your faithful cartoon sidekick sends a warning message about the stone gargoyles on Level Two

doodles - anything from stone pargoyles to mutant babies - who zip back and forth between the cool world and the real world. Luckily you're armed with a magic pen which enables you to shoot and absorb the doodles before they cause too much damage. Once zapped, doodles release their stolen objects or bonuses for you to collect. Erm, that really is all, folks.

Sad to say, but Cool World is a major downer. Just like the film, it falls to live up to the hype - your hopes are unrealistically raised by the glam opening sequence but it's just one long anti-climax after that. The street sequences, for example, are furnished in glorious 2D with you guiding Harris across a horizontally-scrolling backdrop. Sure, the sprites are

well-animated, II Cool World creator Jack is the first person to fall victim to the doodles when they try to loot his but Harris isn't particularly easy to control and the whole thing is laughable, not to mention tedious. It's frustrating to have to wander about from door to door when all you want to do is just

skip from level to level Unfortunately, things don't get any better on the platformed

"Cool World is a

major downer, Just like the film, it fails to live up to the hype"

sections either. You spend all your time switching between cool world and real world trying to stop the doodles from gaining the upper hand, but even this soon gets monotonous and you never really feel there's any point to what you're doing. To make matters worse, the joystick controls aren't particularly responsive and Harris frequently fails to leap to the



but they in no way compensate for the tedious gameplay The chip-based sound effects consist entirely of phut-phut noises as you fire the pen and the music sounds like the psychotic lift trash

8 The delectable Hall sparks off all kinds of

trouble when she tries to become human in

you love to hate.

Cool World is a disappointment, yet another below average platform game to add to the piles already available for your ST Slick scrolling and well-animated sprites can't disguise the fact that this game gets very dull, very quickly. Sadly, the intro sequence is the most enjoyable part of the game. stf





SORT OUT THE REAL WORLD FROM THE CARTOON WORLD...







WARIF

Saddam's up to his old tricks in Kuwait again and only you can stop him. Stormin' Rob Mead takes him on...



surgical" conflicts. Allied forces knocked out entire sections of Saddam Hussein's war

Now you can do exactly the

A squadron of Iraqi T-72s home

into view, their 125mm cannons

already seized the strategically machine without incurring massive important Islands of Failaka civilian casualties. and Bubiyan as well as a number of olifields in the north. You play a memsame in Empire's latest war sim. ber of Team Kuwait, a 1.000 strong force of US troops assigned to the

Kuwaiti military As your paymaster, the Sultan of Kuwait has given you strict Instructions for your team to repel the Iraqi invaders while causing as little "collateral damage" as possible. If you've never played Pacific

Based on the same game engine as

Pacific Islands and Team Yankee, War

in the Gulf takes you to 1995 when

once again, Saddam threatens

Kuwait's sovereignty. Members of

his elite Republican Guard have

Islands or Team Yankee, it's a good idea to start off with the Training mission where you guide four units



ing camera to track down comouflaged opposition

of four tanks each around an assault course and meet the set objectives. Only when you feel you can accomplish this successfully should you attempt the real missions against the Iraqi forces.

Why? Because in a battle situation events take place rapidly and you're usually heavily outnumbered. There's nothing worse than going to let you laase on the battlefield until vou're canable of boog a gnillet

guy from on Irani. fumbling over the controls when

blowing the crap out of you. Your primary objectives are to selze control of Fallaka and Bubiyan, before taking on the hub of the Republican Guard on the Kuwaiti mainland - this is why you really need training as things get a little hot. There are 15 different tank battles over 400 square miles of terrain for you to complete before victory is yours.

you've got a gang of Iragi T-72s

blazing in War in the Gulf. STORMIN' NORMAN'S MIDDLE EAST ADVENTURE

The AA's quide to Desert Storm

Keep everall control of the land battle with War in the Gulf's mapping system

beginesitions frequents do not no appear on the man screen at the start of a mission, just suddenly emerge at rea and their position.

US positions are indicated by US Stage the main map scree

Use the Tarte Tells you what there particular unit is aspects

Map more under vs anable you to so te map around, while cit on the blue square costs: the map on the mineral

Stree you a close in

fractions of a sallo.

Zana Con o full may

Dood Stop Beliege your X

Click on the up and power errows to increase or degreese he speed of the correction

Formation in party doctod units formations or formation, Wide matian, in-line form ova , Kekalan rigiti

CONTRACTOR | KUMATY2 | FIRE | KUMATY4 - K 4.0

Soft targets, hard decisions

At the start of each mission you're briefed with your main objectives which have to be achieved against a time limit. Fall just one of your goals, and you lose.

Control of your tanks is achleved by placing a single way-



eround forces from electing their HO to your presence.

point on each of your four unit's map screens. Once they arrive, the tanks stop and you have to set the next waypoint. Timing is crucial here and you have to take the terrain into account - tanks move faster on purpose-built roads, but are vulnerable to attack, crosscountry routes, on the other hand. are slower and getting your forces into position takes longer.

Once you've sussed out the map controls, you can access the 3D game screen which shows you the landscape in a bitmapped format. At any time you can view one or all of your units on the same screen by toggling the Quadrant/ Expand icon. It's here you witness the full thrill of the battle from spectacular explosions to the scary sight of a whole legion of Iragi tanks descending on your position. Each tank even has its own thermal imaging camera, so you can see the

clatones of tanks at once? You're aren't you? traci's through the smoke and Il "See that tumult of battle. that's an

Friendly fire

Despite a slightly exploitative feel, War in the Gulf is actually very good fun to play. Even if you're not a war sim addict, you soon find yourself deeply engrossed in what's going on. Keeping track of your four units is not easy - despite the novel Quadrant option - and you often find all four under attack at once.

You really do get the feeling of the heat of battle. The game can be a bit overawing at first and you can find yourself blundering blindly into situations without really planning how you're going to get out of them. You soon get the hang of things though, and you can achieve your initial mission objectives quite guickly, even if you do lapse into the occasional bout of US Army style

friendly-fire by inadvertently attacking your own units.

Control of your forces is achieved entirely by a series of point-and-click icons and menus. You're unable to steer individual tanks but are responsible for collective targeting of the enemy objectives using a cursor gun-

sight - this makes getting around dead simple and enables you to fully concentrate on knocking out the Iraqi tanks.

Graphically, War in the Gulf is identical to its two predecessors the same 3D bitmapping ensures gameplay is fast and furious, even if not highly detailed. The different buildings are distinct enough for you to avoid destroying warehoused Kuwaiti art treasures - for which you are seriously penalised, while pummelling crucial trapl communications centres The tanks are not so easily

identified, although you can orientate yourself effortlessly using each unit's maps. The sound effects are pretty unspectacular, consisting mainly of chip-generated explosions and tank rumbles.

ITV, that la." "Why's it got a Sky satellite dish on the tor

Verdict

This is Pacific Islands with sand. Empire have cashed in on the whole Gulf War thing and come up with a highly cynical, but effective war game. If you own Pacific Islands or Team Yankee already, there's nothing here that's really any different - you're just getting a different set of missions for your money

This doesn't stop War in the Gulf being any less addictive or fun to play and if you're the kind of person who can't stand complicated war sims, then this is the game for you, stf



I At the start of each mission you can buy more weapons or tanks from the armoury







WIN A '40S FIELD RADIC

This is your chance to participate in the thrills of war - just answer ten simple questions

ow do you fancy owning a '40s field radio? Just magine the fun you could have - doing the Jitterbug with Auntie Edna on the banks of the River Thames, smoothing with your blushing bride to Glen Miller Tuning into Gary Davies. The possubilities are endless

Empire Software and ST FOR-MAT are offering you the chance to win the Spirit of St Louis, a colector's edition field wireless featuring FM, LW and MW wavebands

in all their steam-powered glory The Spirit of St Louis field radio comes encased in a black cabinet with brushed aluminium front, side-mounted carry handles as well as a front-mounted speaker and ton mounted loop antenna

Battery-powered for maximum portability, the set comes complete with volume, tone and fine tuning controls as well as bunking lights which could transform a gloomy evening into the radio equivalent of Blackpool illu-

minations. Five lucky runners-up could also get the chance to win a set of three excellent war games, including two FORMAT Gold winners - Team Vankee, Pacific Islands bread and dripping from the pantry, stick your tin helmet and scribble the answers to the questions below on a saucy seaside postcard to: Kippers and Custard Competition, ST FORMAT, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 2BW. All entries should be received no later than Friday 13 August 1993.

and War in the Gulf. So, fetch the

Competition rules

1. All competition entries must be received by Friday 13 August 1993. 2. Employees, friends and relations of either Future Publishing or Empire Seftware are ineligible to ester. 3. Duplicate entries will be forced to weath reseats of Through the Kryhole. 4. The Goons weren't the same after Harry Secombe left. 8. The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence shall be entered into. Thank you and goodnight.

IUST ANSWER THESE WAR IN THE GULF RELATED QUESTIONS

- 1. What was the name of the Iragi-launched missiles that landed in Israel?
- 2. In what year is War in the Gulf cot?
- 3. What terrain do tanks
- move on fastest?
- 4. How big is the playing area in the game?
- 5. Which issue of ST FORMAT was Pacific Islands originally reviewed in?
- 6. What tactic can you use to make your tank much harder to detect?
- 7. Who was the Allied Supreme Commander in the real war in the Gulf?
- 8. What is the name of the head of the Kuwati roval family?
- 9. What piece of technology enables you to see through the smoke of battle?
- 10. What are the five weapon types that you can use in War in the Gulf?

Home Accounts 2 Competition Winners

RATION STEALTH

A top secret Stealth Bomber has disappeared. Its dopey pilot left the keys in the Ignition and now the plane's winging its way towards the South American republic of Santa Paragua.

Operation Stepith is a James Bond style graphic adventure filled with Cold War intrigue, exploding pens and scantily-clad women who fall madly in love with you - just like real life, eh?

You play top CIA agent John Glames who's sent off to Santa Paragua to retrieve the missing bomber. Unfortunately, the KGB has a similar plan and the game turns into a race against time, with those darn Russkies trying to foil your plans every step of the way.

to use a fully mouse-controlled point-and-click control system, and it shows. The gameplay isn't particularly intuitive and you can end up walking around in circles trying to get your character to perform a particular action. The menu system's a bit fiddly as well - sometimes clicking with the left mouse button on a menu works, other times it's the right mouse button which does the lob. However, once you've got used to these shortcomings, there's plenty here to reward you. The game is filled with cryptic clues and puzzles as well as the odd unwelcome surprise - you're blamed for the murder in the park,

for example, Graphically, Operation

Steolth has a similar feel to many of US Gold's other graphic adventures like Indiana lones and even shares many of their humorous elements. It all adds up to be an absorbing and involving adventure which soon gets its hooks into you.

Operation Stealth is a dated, but enjoyable graphic adventure which plunges you into the shady world of Cold War espionage.

The point-and-click controls are a bit archaic, but otherwise this game measures up quite well to the more recent adventures like Fascination or Hook





you promise not to spray egg foo-yang all over the back sept."

U One of your first obstacles in Operation Stoolth in getting past the customs official tent amonds off to the low word bearing a rummage in you magic briefcase If veu're stuck.

Well, now's your chance with the

Ever felt the need to rid the world of all the wicked baddles - you know, men who nick old ladies' handbags right through to the really unpleasant, to say the least, serial killers?

Il This is your office - just click on the computer and you get to find out about all the crimes you uld be solving



re-release of Hill Street Blues, a huge game set in Chicago where you get to be Captain Furillo, in control of the police force and all their associated resources like the paramedics and specially trained marksmen. You have to

keep the streets clean of crime (and bodies, so don't just haphazardly shoot everyone and hope for the best) - If you make too many mistakes you're likely to find your popularity deteriorating swiftly, and you'll be out of a job.

This is actually likely to happen sooner rather than later although you can choose from a variety of difficulty levels, this relates to the crimes committed rather than the fre-

quency with which they occur, so you start off with muggings and bag snatchings, rather than the heav-Il See that block on the right.

there, that's the map scree and shows what a huge irea you've got to patro Click on a coloured bit and wow final and subsect it in

ler stuff. Time in the precinct moves much faster than it does in real life, so you're likely to find that you're overwhelmed with criminals all over the town before you've actually worked out what you're supposed to be doing. Don't panic though, take your time to remember what each of the 40-odd icons

does and you can start to methodi-

cally put a stop to the crime wave

The whole thing's controlled by the mouse and tends to be a bit slow on the uptake. Things are made even more confusing by the number of crimes committed - you need to keep a close eye on which officer you've got sorting out which offender in which bit of the town. Mental agility - or at least a pen and paper - come in very handy



you're supposed to be keeping an eye on. Click on any of the loons on the right to initiate an action.

Hill Street Blues certainly has plenty of potential to keep you going for months on end - there are so many different ways you can approach the solving of a crime, not to mention mistakes that you can make, that you're bound to find something new every time you load it up. If you haven't got much patience however, and you prefer your relationship with the games you play to be based on instant attraction you might find this a tad complicated to master

PAULA RICHARDS



MANIAC MANSION



E Although it's not much to look at Maniec Mansion has great gemeplay to keep you interested

I To join Dave you can choose two

kide from this interesting-looking

bunch. Whatever choices you make

affect the gemepley, so be careful.

stuck in a dark house with two American kids for company. These kids would much rather be at the beach or studying physics, but you can't let them go and do what they want 'cos you've got to go and rescue your

girlie - she's likely to kill you when she gets out if you haven't done your utmost to save her. This is Manuac

Mansion, first released back in 1987 but still aivina YOU some great gameplay. Anyway, that's

why you're at this creaking gloomylooking house taking part in an adventure game. You know the sort of thing you've got yourself into:

picking up objects and using them on the most unlikely bits of furniture, discovering rooms and other

tuces in the fridge and you thinking they could be useful one day so you pick them up and carry them round with you; finding a chainsaw you could use on the mad scientist then finding it's run out of petrol you know, the usual frustrating thing.

Uncalled

Maniac Mansion's great fun to play - there are plenty of humourous bits that touch on the faintly macabre, like finding yourself locked in a dungeon with nothing but a skeleton for company - and

you also get to use your brain a bit as well, when you're trying to solve the puzzles to enable you to solve the main problem.

The animated sequences, over which you have no control, are fun to watch and give you the chance to see how Sandy's bearing up under the strain. They also give you an insight into how the other characters work. Although in appearance the game looks rather primitive, there's enough here to keep your interest and you don't really mind too much about its looks

PAULA RICHARDS





the interface is very easy to use and all you have to do in resous that

BULLY'S SPORTI

then Kick Off 2, Bully's Sporting Darts is going to be the footy same this autumn.

Know what your right arm's for? Then pack it in and have a game of darts instead. Jim Bowen's only friend arrives on your ST, dragging loads of fabby darts games behind him.

Bully's Sporting Darts enables you and a pal to pit your arrowthrowing wits in six different tests of skill, tactics and beer-gut wobbling ability. The games - 501, Clock, Footboll, Tennis, Golf and Cricket all take place on a series of standard or custom dartboards with Bully chastising or praising you all the way, 501 and Clock are the kind of games you can play with any pub team, but the others need you to suspend your disbelief while you aim your darts at a secyou're playing for Aston Villa or something, Great, eh? You know you're in for a laugh as soon as you boot this

game up - your ST's sound chip starts blast-Ing out Down at the Old Bull and Bush and the graphics appear on-screen in all their crappy day-glo glory. But as soon as you delve into the first game of 501 you're booked

A dart-wielding hand appears on-screen which you control with either your joystick or ST's keyboard. As soon as you've lined up the dart for a shot, pressing Fire sends it winging into the cork. Get a high score after you've

released your darts and you're rewarded with a congratulatory "moo" from Bully. Of the "nondarts" games the footy and the golf

Bully is Eric Bristow's better-looking sister. She makes great cow pie.

tion of the board and pretend are the best as you try to lodge darts in their half of the "pitch" or try to score a hole-in-one. However, the snooker game is

the pits - it's over complicated and very dull. The game presents you of the amount of the same

traditional game of darts, so try and best your ST Instead with nine increasingly hard-to-beat

computer opponents. To brighten things up a bit, there's also a two-player option so you and a pal can play against each other.

Graphically, the game's a bit of a disaster area - there's nothing here which wouldn't disgrace an 8bit and the sound effects consist largely of the aforementioned chip music and the sound of Bully mooing constipatedly.



You're not going to believe this, but Bully's Sporting Darts is actually



is going to drive you bonkers, but you're going to be playing this until the Bullies come home. BOIL MEAD

a lot of fun to play, especially in

two-player mode, it doesn't use any

of your ST's capabilities, the music



METALLIC **POWER**

You want rare? We'll give you rare - this compilation isn't even on sale in the UK. **Rob Mead investigates**



no custom car options like more recent racing sims. But, hey, who cares? Vroom still knocks spots off the competition. The feeling of realism you experience as your car shoots around the track is aweinspiring. Take a corner too fast and your tyres squeal in protest and you get some pretty spectacular explosions when you plough into obstacles at 300 mph. A more spectacular view of the action can be achieved by toggling the <F10> key - this zooms you even closer into the action, making the game

Only the Arcade mode can be controlled by the joystick, the rest of the time you need to use the mouse - something which can take a little while to get used to.

appear faster still.

This is a horizontally-scrolling shoot-'em-up starring a disabled

spaceship and an escort vessel. As pilot of the escort vessel

Principles of Statement makin same 26 missions of mayhem and puzsiery in Outrone. ship gets from one side of a level to

another unscathed. Between you and the exit are a host of baddles, obstacles and puzzle blocks which you have to deal with. There are also a number of bonus objects - like weapon power-ups - for you to collect

When you first start to play, Outzone looks like just another monotonous blast, but the puzzle element and dealing with the stricken ship soon has you glued to your ST You have to keep constantly on the move, destroying obstacles and blasting baddies while zipping backwards and forwards to check on the drone's progress - it's a bit like a primitive version of Sleepwalker really, except it's not so cutesy.

Graphically, the game's pretty unremarkable - the ship sprites are small and there's nothing here to take your breath away. However, the backgrounds are jollied up a bit by the inclusion of some colourful parallax scrolling.

Genius

All compilations have at least one dodgy game and Metallic Power is no exception. Genius is an isometrically scrolling arcade

ship's inhabitants go beserk. robot from one end of the ship to the other, killing off baddies and

avolding the many traps and obstacles which lie in wait. The problem with all this is that the little robot is virtually impossible to control - you find yourself plummeting down ravines and colliding with baddies through no fault of your own. Much of the blame for this can be levelled at the isometric layout of each room - If you've ever played D/Generation you can appreciate how tricky the controls are. Genius has little to offer and you're going to be stuffing it back into the game box quicker than you got it out.

Metallic Power is an average compilation containing the classic Vroom and moderately addictive Outzone. Unfortunately, Genius is completely cack. Whether you can be bothered to send an international money order off to France for this is debatable, especially when both Vroom and Outzone are still available through UBI Soft. ##

Metallia



Lankhor have been able to

get most of their ST games distributed either through Domark

or USI Soft in the UK, but Metallic

Power is different. It's only available direct from the company them-

selves. So, before you pop down to

the post office and send a bunch of

fivers off to le Continent, you'd better see if it's worth the hassle

The best game here has to be

Vroom, the best racing sim ever

released on the ST. It makes Nigel

Mansell's World Championship look

like a trundle around in a shopping

trolley. Fast, smooth-scrolling graph-

ics and extremely realistic sound

effects make this a racing experi-

Training, Arcade or Championship

modes or you can watch the demo

and see how the experts do it. Best

You're given a choice of

ence like no other It's brilliant

D/GENERATION

E Once you think out trick your way past part of the system, you get to chat up and trapped receptions.



The D/Generation is an advanced form of the Neogen organism developed by a scientist from the Genoq Corporation. It's a particularly advanced stage of artificial evolution, and it just so happens that this vicious organism is loose in Genopi's Stagenores lab.

Genoq's Singapore lab.
As an intercontinental courier
you fly all the way from
Finland to Singapore
to deliver a package to Genoq's
head scientist,
Derrida. When
you get there, you
narrowly miss getting killed by the

building's security system and quickly realise that the pack-age you're carrying is more important than you thought. So, in a burst of courage you decide that you're the only one who can rescue the trapped workers and bring the package safely to Derrida D/Ceneroton is an addictive

and frustrating platform game with adventure-style undertones. Not only do you have to find Derida and give him the package, but you also need to gather information from the surviving workers so that you can solve the mystery and destroy the D/Generation – there are over 120 rooms filled with traps and nasty surprises.

Graphically, D/Generation isn't brilliant, but there are some

humorous touches which make the game enjoyable to play — when the A/Generation blobs swallow you for example, they turn into space hoppers and when the B/Generation cylinders spot you they jump on you and hammer your character into the ground.

The most frustrating part of the game is the joystick controls it takes a while to work out the relationship between your joystick's eight direc-

stick's eight directions and those on-screen. Once

BTrying to get past takes a while to meeter... and If you miss, you fry.

you've sussed that out though, you can really get into the game as you dodge, shoot, rescue and devise your way to the 90th floor where Derrida is waiting for you.

Verdict

D/Generation is an amusing and frustrating journey into adventure and platform land. When you turn on your ST though, just make sure you haven't anything planned, 'cos the chances are you're still going to be playing with it in the early hours of the morning Be warmed, you won't want

to put D/Generation down until you've solved it.



Il Those red blobs are the A/Generation... once they spot yeu, they bounce on top of you and turn into a space hopper... Waird!

DAVID ROBERTS

D/Generation
65/99 Mindsteps
70442 26513

In gare
1 Immorrous animation
and addictive gampaley
make this ne scedent
leave
control animation
and addictive gampaley
make this ne scedent
leave
control animation
ani





The Kromlin is cheesed off with the Chinese... you have to score turn and show than wha's base.



E You've just locked on to an arms depet. Slow it up and touch them a lesson they won't forget.

MIG-29 FULCRUM

Remember the days of the cold war when there were two superpowers - the Yanks and the Soviets? In those days you couldn't get shoot-em-up to stage raids on Saddam or Gad-haff. Oh not You had to put which beling a Russian or an American pilot upholding your country's status by scaring all the small countries around you.

Well, thanks to Hit Squad you can relive the days before the Berlin Wall came down with the budget release of the excellent MiG-29 Falcrum. You get to train and then fly five missions shooting various objectives out of the sky or off the face of the earth.

The missions start off relatively easy; in the first one all you need to do is fly past a trapped American submarine so that you can film it and bring the revealing tape back to base. Sounds pretty easy, but it isn't because you've got to avoid the fittish Sea Harriers who are there to protect the submarine – and the RAF Just happen to produce the best pilots in the world...

The other missions all get gradually more difficult as you find yourself having to exercise more skill and use a greater range of your MiCS fire power. You go through scaring the Chinese away, destroying a Middle Eastern dictator's oil supplies and blowing up a bunch of terrorists.

Once you're successfully col-

Once you've successfully collected 500 points from these missions you can go for the big bust-up in the desert and destroy the same Middle Eastern dictator's nuclear reactor. Good luck - you're goling to need it. You control your Mill Gether with your keyboard, mouse or joystick. On top of the usual bank lett, right, climb, dive seed the control of the control of the work of the control of the control loads of other keys which have various crucial roles like turning your regimes on or off, braking and electric your weapons and largets. It's a good like to press chool to pure the game, then control to your manual to check which key to press.

Vertilet

When MiG.29 first came out more than two years ago! tws fest and furious and was greeted with open arms from flight sim enthalsats. Today, it still compares favourably with the likes of Micro-Prose's flight sims although it haart quite got the depth of something like #17 Flying Fortess which we reviewed in \$27 F-8.1 ft you're looking for a competent flight sin, but don't want to splash out for the better full protections.

DATE HODENTO

- MiG-29
- E12.99 Hit Squad
- ast gameplay
- You can get
- You can get inuen smoother graphics on recent sims, and live missions is a bit ilmited.

If you're not fast enough or lose your concentration for a bit you can casily get shot down. Watch those British pilots, it's not easy to trick 'em.



CHAMPIONSHIR MANAGER '93

Do you have what it takes to turn a squad of players into a winning team? David Roberts takes on the challenge and two months later...

hat is it about football that gets your adrenaline flowing? The action on the pitch or the trials and tribulations of the board room? Well. if



SThese are the guys you're going to have to rely on to do the job for you on the pitch. From this screen everything you do determines whether you'll be successful or not.

you're looking for pure footballing action, get Sensible Soccer or Kick Off 2. If, on the other hand, all you've ever wanted is to Juggle with the statistics of your favourite team and make it successful then Domark's updated Championship Manager '93 could be the answer to your prayers.

Unlike the original version you now have the choice of using over 2,000 real player names and stats or Domark generated ones. Whichever you go for, just remember that your 75 is going to take about half an hour to prepare the game for you before you can actually start. This is a real pain, but you you want to get stock into all these lovely player statistics and club records.

Here we go! Here we go! It's taken a while – well, 30 minutes – but you are now the manager of



II This is the engine room - decide on the formation and style that suits the players you're picked.

the club of your choice and you have five weeks to go before the season starts.

During the build up to the season you can organise up to seven friendlies at home or abroad This option is great for testing your squad against teams of different strengths and skills.

After the first few friendlies, you spot which parts of your team need strengthening – each player gets rated at the end of the game giving you an indication of who's playing well and who's not.

Gimme Waddle any day if you have money available, it's a good time to go shopping for some talent. You can take a look at the transfer list, the foreign market or just unleash your scouts on a couple of unsuspecting players. The scouts follow these players around and produce reports on their per-

formances helping you decide

whether they're worth the fee
Once the league starts, things
can get quite stressful – especially if
you have a small squad. The pressures of the game are such that
injuries and match bans are quite
frequent and you might find yourself selecting players from the
reserve squad to help you out. In

A THE STATE OF THE

S Salance your income and your spendings if you want to keep your club healthily in credit.

addition to the league, you also have to compete in the Coca-Cola and FA cups as well as any European competition you might have reached – this includes the Anglo-Ralian, Cup Winners', UEFA and the European cups. So, you don't only need good players, you also need ever-lasting ones.

The match

Championship Manager '93 is not an action-packed lootle game. When you've selected your team and you get to the match screen, don't expect

screen, don't expect animated highlights and crowd noises, 'cos you don't get them. The screen is a very basic setup and the only indication you get on how your team is doing is three bars

EXIT

WHAT'S NEW IN '937

Se, what makes the 1993 version se much better than its predecessor?

on the cut 1923 squalet, players as well as their claid bistories. FORECH RAYER: don't limit you set for home player, there's a root of taken to be found about ARRINDUES: you can plan and organise up to seen friendles in the four weeks before the season start. COAN PLAYER: "If see of your beat players to one from weeks you can players to one from weeks you can cheek to also your coa." The season start of the season start of the first players of the reset was the players of the first weeks you can and support rises are two of the new team formation you can choose. PREMIER LEAGUE — all the correct leagues and cups — Gost-Cole and Angio-Italian — home bean included.
PENATUES — decide which players are to take the penalty ficks.
REMABILITATION — decide from much money you want to spend on unanipaired player.
RESERVE TEAM — you now have access to the promising players in your reserve team.

your reserve team, SCOUT SEARCH — get your scouls to watch one or two players for a few weeks and then get them to report back to you. SPEED — it's still allow, but is now just about bearable.

about bearable.

THE MATCH – still quite boring graphically, but you get more messages during the game.

moving up and down and messages like, "Waddle finds the net..

spotted an offside." Get the picture? It's very much like going to a match with a bag over your head and asking somebody to tell you what's happening.

So, what's it worth? The original version of Champi-

onship Manager was very slow and it was practically impossible to feel involved. The information and statistics that you could get your hands on were great, but it's a plty they weren't representative of real players and clubs.

Domark obvlously took notice of this criticism when producing the 1993 version, and have come up with a much more addictive and exciting management sim. Sure, it's still not very last, but if you like management sims that make you think by giving you leads of options, more statistics and information than you can cope with and the chance to lead your team in a realistic environment, then this onc's foryou. Series for your series of your series of the cons's foryou. Series of your series of the cons's foryou. Series of your ser

a The England squad according to Domark... Every month or so new International squads are announced - glad to see Waddle's back!



There are some great cheats, hints and tips again this month, including the long awaited solution to Wizkid. Rob Mead does the honours

CAPTIVE

MINDSCAPE It's taken SH Seymour of Liverpool two years to reach Level 20 of this

Dungeon Moster "in space" adventure. It needn't take you half as long thanks to his tip for short-cutting some of the planets

When you complete a level and have the planet probe in your possession, save the game at the point where you're about to enter your spaceship. Take off and send the probe to search for the next planet and, once there, land and make a note of the location coordinates. Commit suicide Re-load at the re-entry point and blast off once again - make way to the new planet using the coordinates you now know. This way you keep possession of the probe - which can be left inside the entrance of the new dungeon until it's needed - and you only need to find the generator room to take off again. You can do this on every planet. Of course, sometimes you find the computer before you come across the generators, but all this means is that you get a spare probe. By the way,

some of the levels have a bug and you're unable to find certain clipboards, so you just have to work out the keycodes for yourself. This is a real pain and to have any chance of success you must do it methodically - it takes a long time as there are an awful lot of combinations in the 16 keys.

CHASE HO

DEFAN Hold down <Fire> and press the left

mouse button and type in GROWLER at the same time. Press <T> to reset the time

D/Generation



B Watch out for the invisible spacehoppers on Level 80 of D/Generatio 5 Fotakis of Southgate, London has sent in a level map for the first floor of this isometric arcade adventure game, recently released on budget read the review on page 81. EXIT TO LEVEL 81









Winkid

It's been a long time

coming, but the complete Wizkid solution is finally here. Thanks to lody

Smith of Woodbridge, Suffolk who's this month's £25 winner

Level One

Start the game in Head mode and buy the carrot-on-stick, newspaper, blue gem and token. Now leave the shop in Body mode.

lump up and down on the well handle until a bucket reaches the top of the well, lump into the bucket and you're taken to the underground toilets. You're now faced with two doors. Go through the door on your right and enter the ladies' toilets. Once inside, walk left to collect the spiked cola. Walk right to the exit. You're now facing the two doors again. This time enter the left door and go to the men's tollets. Once inside, use the fourth toilet from the right - by pressing Fire - and then walk right

to the exit again. Quickly jump

back into the bucket before the tollets flood and go back to the

ground floor lump out of the bucket and walk left to the bell. Press Fire to ring it. A shed falls from the sky. Go into it and get past the dog by giving it the newspaper.

You're now in a small room Walk left to collect the 10Kg weight, then jump onto the top right platform. Keep jumping up while on this platform until a trapdoor opens above your head. A switch appears in the centre of the room. Press the switch and exit through the trapdoor.

A donkey appears when you press the switch, so hop on its back and you're taken to the cliff edge.

Use the token in the oxyge machine, then fall off the cliff and collect the kitten. Jump into the water and prepare for Level Two.

Level Two

Buy the red specs and fishbone key from the shop. Exit the shop in Body mode. You find yourself

beside a longboat. The six shields on the longboat have various effects - the first three change the ship's figurehead, while the last three release bubbles or change the colour of the screen. Put on the red specs and jump onto the fourth

shield from the left to make the figurehead face left and then jump onto the second last shield to make a door appear. Use the fishbone key on this door and enter it to go to Level Three

Level Three Things to buy in the shop - elephant, stars (if needed). Once you get into the shop make sure you have either two or four stars. If you don't have enough, buy some. If you have too many, buy a secret screen and lose a star by getting hit by an enemy. Now you can exit the shop in Body mode and enter the first left door. You appear on a platform with a red gem to the right of you, so collect it

This is where having an even number of stars is important - having two or four stars means you can walk safely through the lava bubbles below you without getting hurt. However, the lava kills you if you have one, three or five stars, If you survive, walk right off the platform and then carry on walking right off the screen.

Now you're in a new room. Jump on the TV in the centre of the room to gain an extra life. Walk right to exit. You're now at the start screen again, so pull down on your joystick to summon the shop balloon. Once inside the shop

What's this green Pac Man got to do with Wizkid then? Check out Jody Smith's complete solution to this great bounce-'em-up.



DVNA BLASTER

UBI SOFT Yet more level codes for this frantic FORMAT Gold winning blow-'emup, this time from Colin McAllister of Johnstone, Renfrewshire:

Levels One to Four COURSE SETURE MXVFFOYH UCCZYOFN DXNKWINTH UCRZVEEN DOHTHERE

MAKCTHREA

MKVNNWVH HANVOITN MUNCHGOP UWOVQGHK MWECTIVH UCEHOWPU

Level Five **UOBHMOPA** HOMHMOTA MXECTITY

MWCCWICH Level Six

MWCCGTTY

det levels of explosive fun in Dwg

MUWCPIHO BAVKOLKY MBAAIGVP

Level Seven MANUFACTOR MUCETPUT MUBEVVKN

Level Eight UBHOVBPK MERAGIN HXYEWMCY UAEFVSLH

MRCABOKN ELATE

MICROPROSE Aussie Chris Macks might well be on the other side of the globe, but he's still managed to send in a few tips for this old, but fabby, space

trading game Type SARA Instead of the password. Then type in the real password. Press the <*> key during gameplay to enter the codes below. The easiest way to get more spacebucks is to get 255 tons of all the cargoes and sell them all straight away Keep your status



choose the Head mode, then complete this level by completing all the screens Collect the kitten when it appears

Level Four

Buy the flying scarf and the bonbon from the shop. Exit the shop in Body mode and wait for the plane to appear. Jump into it and take flight. Pluck the cross from the top of the church then land the plane

lump on the tree trunk and press Fire to go underground. You're now standing next to a clown. Go left or right beside the clown and press Fire. A bubble appears above the clown's head and shows you what he wants. When you have what the clown wants in your pockets place it on either one of the two boxes. If the clown asks for something you don't already have, look in the lucky dip between the two boxes and try to find it. You must keep on doing this until you finally give the clown the can of spiked cola which makes him completely legless.

> However, make sure that before you leave the clown you have the cross, spade. B Fallow this solution to the letter and you can keep

red gem, blue gem and matchstick In your possession

lump back onto the blue platform you arrived on to be taken further underground. Walk to the centre of the screen and press Fire to dig your way to Level Five.

Because you're invincible on this level you must buy the hidden screen. Once on the hidden screen you must headbutt the bombs so they fall and kill you, making sure you don't kill the butterfly. Don't worry about this because, instead of losing a life, you're whisked off to a tomb and confronted by Dracula Press Fire while in front of him to dispose of him with your cross. then walk right, collect the lutten and exit to Level Six.

Level Six

There's no shop on this level. Kill the quardian by staying behind it. so it cannot shoot you. Staying on the right side of the screen means you can't be killed because you're in a safety zone. If you don't shoot anything apart from the guardian on this level you get five extra lives.

bouncing to your heart's content.

Buy the TNT, mouse and sharp pin from the shop. Once in Body mode

lump on the seesaw and place the mouse on the cheese. After it's finished eating, stab it with the sharp pin, lump onto the seesaw to send the weight flying through the drum lump down the hole in the drum. You're now in a room with a green gem flying around the celling. To get this gem you must jump on to the lack-in-the-box which throws you into the air to catch it Outside the drum again, walk

left over to the cannon. Use the TNT and the matchstick with the cannon before jumping to be catapulted to Level Eight.

Level Eight There's no need to buy anything

for this level. Leave the shop in Body mode and jump straight up into the woman's mouth to be swallowed After a short story scene you

end up in bed. Get up and jump up and down on the top bunk until a yellow gem appears on the carpet. Collect the gem, then walk right and exit. After the woman spits you

out, pull down on your joystick to summon the shop balloon. Now exit the shop in Head mode and finish the level by completing all the screens.

Lovel Nine

Buy a can opener from the shop. In Body mode walk to the centre of



ely has a bit of that Olygy feel to it.

the turtle and press Fire to cut the turtle's shell off with the can opener, Jump into the hole in the shell You see four coloured orbs. Place a gem on each orb and collect the huge pile of cash in the middle. Walk right and exit.

Pull down on your Joystick to summon the shop balloon again and exit the shop in Head mode Keep playing until a key appears. Pick it up to let Nifta out of Iail and to have a race to the final level.

There's no shop on this level. This final level takes the form of Wizeroids, which is an Asteroids clone. To complete the game you have to beat Zark's high score - about 55,000 paints

This is quite hard, so here's a tip - when the spaceship appears fly up the screen as far as possible. but without appearing back at the bottom of the screen again, Position yourself so you're totally offscreen and you're invincible. Stay here and keep shooting until your score reaches 55,000. That's it. You've completed Wizkid



Your Sinclair's final, ultimate and amazingly last issue, containing a bumper 68 pages of spectacular wonderfulness, goes on sale on Tuesday 3rd August. Go on, buy it. You owe it to your Speccy. Or something.



"clean" and the Galactic Police

soon stop bothering you.				
Byte	Value			
28	01			
18	01			
30	01			
32	01			
20	01			
22	91			
24	01			
26	01			
	01			
73	46			
15	04			
1b	9f			
9b	0-3b			
9d	0-17			
9f	User			
	di Stond			
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	Byte 28 18 30 32 20 22 24 26 ft0 13 15 1b 9b 9d 9f ad 48 48			

255 tons food MIDNIGHT RESISTANCE

755 tons

computers

machinery

255 tons allen

255 tons

Items

OCEAN

Press <F10> during play to pause the game. Type in SAMANTHA-LYON for infinite credits and lives. While the cheat is active press the following keys:

F1 - Normal gun F2 - Full auto

fire

missiles

HS COLD/KIXX Start a match and - when you can

should change

SKWEEK

CREMI IN

PANZA KICK BOXING

move the players - push a cursor

key. Press <F1> and then <F2> and a yellow thing appears. The round

is now recorded until the time

stops - the colours of the game

use the cursor keys or joystick to

use the playback options. You can

When the time stops, you can

F7 - Shower

ER .. Mitten F9/F10 - Oult game



Civilization MICROPROSE D Jones of Bilston, West Midlands has sent in a few tips for this FORMAT Gold winning god-game. Now there's no excuse

for not taking over the world.

General

Choose your starting race with care. Germans give you two settlers, but Greeks and Indians give you a technical advantage.

Develop the wheel as soon as possible. It's very useful for attacking and counter-attacking your enemies.

Bronze weapons should come next, followed by the alphabet, writing and literacy. This should give you the Great Library Wonder - build it as soon as you can as it gives you technology from other cultures - as well as the library and the diplomat.

Only build in the cities when necessary. At the beginning of the game you can set the tax rate to zero to speed up development, but as soon as you build something - except for a Wonder of the World - you have to set a tax rate or you go broke.

Explore as much as possible. You can pick up new cities, new technologies and friendly forces. You also learn where and when to expect attacks from unfriendly civilisations and you can plan ahead.

Develop all the land around your cities to their maximum. Even though you gain no resources by building roads in forests, you gain with improved transport. Joining all your cities with roads or railways also means you can rush forces quickly to a city under attack.

When possible change your government to Monarchy, then to Republic and, eventually, to Democracy.

If you build the Colossus Wonder expand the population of the city where you want to build it as soon as possible to maximise its effects. It's possible to win the game - King level - with as few as eight cities,

but can be a push, especially when playing Earth. Warfers

Attack and take over rival cities when they are around three to five in size. You can then take them over without destroying them.

The charlot is the best general purpose vehicle at the start of the game. So make sure you produce a few of them as soon as possible, Remember that coast cities can be attacked by ships. Crulsers are wonderful for this, since they can take a lot of punishment.

Before you attack a city, send in a diplomat to steal whatever technology you don't have.

just because another race has better weapons it doesn't mean you can't beat them. Short, quick wars even the odds out very quickly.

Set sail for foreign shores and the promise of war booty is Microprose's Civilization



Hold down the Spacebar and press medicals 255 tons slaves 40 ff 255 tons ŧί 66

50

74 ff

3.6 66 INFOGRAMES <F2> on the title screen for a random level

do this on every round.

SPACE CRUSADE: THE VOYAGE BEYOND

Afex Johnson of Ely, Cambridgeshire has discovered a cheat for this space war game.

Load in a commander from the original game who's completed all 12 primary missions - he should be Captain Supremus in rank. Now start any mission. If you complete the mission or die trying, your commander is automatically promoted to Fleet Admiral without having to win nine of the ten new missions.

Those priceless Cover Disks covered



and tips for those STF Som Disk games ABOMBINABA STF Cover Disk

Level 10 - FILMS Level 15 - ATAR Level 26 - QUEEN Level 25 - GUMM

If Livery your very medicated their Abombicaball pumis-tem

> takes you up one level As takes you down one les tohus you up ten levels takes you down too lake BALLS - STF Cower Diek 46 eval 5 .. D MODE eval 9 - MELLOW avel 21 - T W288 AVI 25 - 105HLA

TO COOPE Acres de la constitución de la c III year'es duie for a Take In case in day'one de

ball around

the help of a fe Select two blocks in a row- and

Beunee yew

start. Highlight the first row and enterfiling heavy on the keys, wick 20 minutes letin how you're doing

He's at it again - Captain Blunder, the ST gaming wonder, can't stop solving your gaming problems

Don't lose your bearings I can't find the right keys for the NAV 2 preset bearing in A320 Airbus and the key combinations

in the manual do not work. Can you please help? Steve Brown, Co Durham

CB: There should be an ST supplement to the manual telling you the right key combinations, but if you haven't got that, press <insert> and <Clr Home> to get the NAV 2 preset bearing. Thallon can be contacted on 9 021 442 2050 for more details.

Cheating the environment Do you know of any level

cheats for Mindscape's Captain Planet and the

Planeteers? George Leigh, Wiltshire



S Captain Planet is one of those eco-friendly, caring, sharing '90s men. What a wimp.

CB: Sadly, no. The only known cheat works salely with the original version of Captive. On the level selection screen, put your Captive disk in the drive and press <Fire>. Your ST tells you the disk is broken, so put in the Captain Planet disk and the cheat mode miraculously appears

Stuck in a corpse In Cruise for a Corpse I've managed to proceed to

12:40 and my code from the mermaid is '8C. I've now been stuck for two months at this point. I've phoned the US Gold helpline for advice, but it gives me advice on something which isn't accessible to me yet. Have I done the clues in the wrong order or am I missing something? Neil Crittenden, Scotland

II .. Unfortunately, so did the Jehovah's Witnesses And, typically, I was in the both

CB: Without knowing what you've done so far, it's hard to tell you what to do next, so turn to our Back issues pages on page 52 and order yourself a copy of STF 33 - it contains a complete solution

Call yourself a driver? Can you please tell me which of the issues of ST FORMAT

included the car setups for Microprose's Formula One Grand Prix? Andrew Acton, Kent

CB: Sure, we printed the setups in STF 41 and a few gameplaying tips in STF 40. Turn to page 52 to order your copies if you missed them.

Quadruple bogey I've written to Gremlin

complaining about a problem with Greg Norman's Ultimate Golf, but have received no acknowledge-

Basically, the game has devel-

oped a gremlin of its own and just hangs up with a white rectangle appearing on the screen. I'm now unable to complete the game without this problem occurring no matter what options are set. It would appear to be either a memory problem or a corrupt games disk - I have had no problems with any other games or Pagestream. I have an STFM running TOS 1.02 with a Z.4MByte upgrade G White, Reading

CB: We contacted Gremlin's Customer Services department and, unfortunately, they have no record of you contacting them. The problem you describe is one they've never encountered before and suggest you return the disks to Gremlin Graphics Software, Freepost, Sheffleld S1 2AY with a note explaining the problem.

Gods must be... faulty? I've had a copy of Gods

for about a year, but just recently it stopped loading up - all I get is the Desktop What could be wrong

with the disk? Simon Larkin, Kent

II The hardest part of Gods is choose from all the goodles in the shap at the end of each level.

CB: Sounds like the data's corrupt to me. Send the disk back to Renegade, C1 Metropolitan Wharf, Wapping Wall, London ET 955 with a brief note explaining the problem and they'll be happy to send you a replacement

Money makes the world go round



In Ishar when I hav a weapon and go to the character sheet to place the weapon in the characthe character sheet disappears

and I'm unable to use the weapon Is the pame faulty or must I do something beforehand? Karl Debono, Gibraltar

CB: To buy something, you simply click on the object you want, then click on the character box or on the character sheet to use it, if this doesn't work, then you obviously haven't got enough money to buy the goods. Give one character all the group's money and try again. If it still won't work you have to go bopping more baddles until you have enough gold to buy the weapon you want



8 One minute you've got a levely view over the Sussex Downs, the next someone's etuck a great big castle in the way.

With a little help I've recently bought

Leisure Suit Lorry and I read you can send off for a hint book, but the telephone number doesn't work anymore Have you got the new number? Simon Topliffe, Kent

CB: The hint books are still available from Sierra Online, Unit 2, Technology Centre, Station Road, Theale, Reading, Berks RG7 4AA, price E7.99 each. You can also phone them on # 0734 303171

le it just an illusion? I've just bought Maaic

Pockets and can't get from the first sector of the first world directly into the second. It takes an hour for me to play my way through and then the only message I get is "Piracy is killing computing," although I have

3

a registered original. What am I doing wrong? Simon Rosenhelm, Switzerland

CB: Don't quite know what's going on there and neither do Renegade. Just send your disk back to them at CT Metropolitan Wharf, Wapping Wall, London E1 955 with a note briefly explaining the problem and they'll try to sort you out.

Lock picking

I can't find a file to pick the locks in The Secret Of Monkey Island, where do I get one?

Christopher Yates, Milton Keynes



8 Otto the prisoner is a smelly reprobate, but his auntie bakes great cakes.

CE: Give the gopher repellent from the Governor's Mansion to the prisoner in Melee jail. He gives you a cake. Open it and then you find a file inside that you use on locks.

The spy who cheated me
Are there any cheats for
The Spy Who Loved Me?
Susan Johnstone,
Aberdeen

CB: Type MISS MONEYPENNY on the first title screen and you get infinite lives.

What a load of bollisticks
How can I get hold of two
Cheetah Bollisticks when
most mail-order companies won't send hardware

abroad or charge huge amounts of money to do so? Bastiaan de Bruin, The Netherlands

CB: Luckily, you can buy the Bollisticks direct from Cheetah, priced at \$9.99 each. Simply send your order to Cheetah, Unit K1, Old Wellington Road, Lyn Town Trading Estate, Ectles, Manchester M30 9QG. Eurocheques should be made payable

Earth shattering news
I've heard there's a cheat
for Sim City. What is it?
Kevin Stapleton,
Swindon

CB: Press down one of the <Shift>
keys and type MONEY, FUND or CASH
for an extra \$10,000. Don't do this
too many times though because every
tenth time an earthquake destroys

certain areas of your town

theat

The key to success

How do I get past the guard in Fascination? Do I need the card for the Digicode? Where is it? Jethro Day, Leicestershire

CB: The keycard for the Digicade can be found in the red car in the parking lot. However, you need to get the car keys from the storeroom and then get jon the Tramp to kick the car tyre before you can get it set?

the rail system when the nuclear reactor's gone into halls and hand is some first than the system of the system of

Ask me, ask me, ask me

Smill in oil your 57 genera problems to Capitalism

P S Carrier Services and the services are services and the services and the services and the services are services and the services and the services are services and the services and the services are services are services and the services are services and the services are services and the services are services are services and the services are services are services and the services are services are services are services are services are services are servi



Welcome to software that's cheap but often of a sunny disposition...

SECT

DEMOS

REVOLUTION FLOPPYSHOP DUNCTIONS THESE

Revolution is another one of those huge megademos - it has a chunky introduction leading to a menu where you have to fly a spaceship looking for bases to get to the sub-demos There's a couple of thumping

sampled tracks and a lot of absolutely

horrendous chip music. Among the sub-demos is a playable racing game, sots of scrolling borderless screens, starfields and very wibbly graphics.

It's all very clever, of course, but not amazing or wildly original. Some of the full screen scrolling stuff is impressive but it's all been done before a zillion times. One for avid collectors only

STF Rating: 65%

Even en

Level Fow

have to sool

"net" - seen ofter the

word drops

though, the

letters are

replaced by

stars to help

you only



■ Oh, my god! Everything's gone horribly withly. One of the eight sub-demos from the Revolution dema - It's all moving in different directions; makes you feel a bit slok after a while really.

REDILAM FLOPPY SHOP SOUR DRING OF MA

Flash scaleable font-style credits lead into the now popular format of hypnotic colour cycling patterns and sampled sounds, stuff that makes temporarily confused people go "Corl Wowl Amazing!"

The sound module is a meandering synthy affair to match the trance-inducing screens. The screens are all abstract patterns whose colours wobble about pleasingly There are no really clever programming tricks involved and, although the pictures are very pretty and all that, it's likely to be a rather shortlived fascination,

Should keep the cat amused for half an hour and the rave generation happy for the entire weekend. No offence - you've got to laugh, haven't you? It's the law

STF Rating: 61%

prejudice. Remove your trausers and start whiatling. **EDUCATION**



B Listen carefully, the secret of spiritual growth is to accept what is without

DROP DOWN WORDS MENTIN

DANK SUPPLEMENT OF SUME

Learn to spell and type simple threeletter words which drop from an aeroplane on to the ground. If you haven't managed to get the correct speking within three goes you die in a huge and violent explosion, but if you do spell the word properly

ory develop you're rewarded with an encouraging sign saying something like, "Well done." The words are very easy to get right and don't get harder on later levels but there's a text editor so you can replace the ones your child knows with harder variations. While there's nothing particularly wrong with this game, it doesn't offer anything new or special in terms of tech-

niques or graphical appeal. STF Rating: 69%

SUPER JUMBLE AND **GOODMANS DISK GD 1955**

1MBYTE ONLY

There's one alphabet puzzle here in Super Jumble along with some times table questions with Sasha the Sibersan husky. Yes, the dog type of husky. Bit of a mixed bag really -Super Jumble goes one step beyond the traditional, "put your alphabet on the right order by clicking on the letters to swap them" by using some of the more obscure alphabets, like Hebrew and sign language as well as

clocks. Alternatively, you can talk maths with Sasha You get a picture of this dog next to your questions which come from totally different levels of times table, so you could get 1 x 4 next to 9 x 7. Get the question right and Sasha barks, get it wrong and she whimpers pitifully It's quite fun trying to give the dog a sore throat, but the usefulness of the program is a bit dubious because of the different level of question. One for precocious kids who think they know their multiplication and aiphabets inside out

STF Rating: 67%

The first dog ever to know her times his better than you and she gets so ueset when you dan't understand nither careful you don't give her a vous breakdow





THE FANTASY SHOW EMERALD CITY DISK SP 14

A slideshow of digitised screens accompanied by some very ropey thip music that'll soon have you turning the volume right down. The pictures are fairly good quality and mostly taken from scans of airbrushed artwork. There are 14 in all and they all have a fantasy theme

The pictures are in Spectrum 572 format and, although not top notch stuff, are interesting enough to have you watching the show a few times before filing it away in your disk box. You can get at the files from the Desktop so if you've got Spectrum 512 you can mess about

pictures for your own nefamous purposes.

STF Rating: 46%

The Sparky Quartet Mu beepty-beep.

DEEK DEW 1638

SPARKY QUARTET MUSIC COLLECTION FLOPPYSHOP

Four pieces of musically competent Quartet music including a smart version of Magnetic Fields 2 by that French bloke with all the keyboards.

Collection, four pieces of sumpled soundtrack, a nicture of same drums and a checky grin. Beep, beep,

It's not half bad, and the author gives permission for you to use the songs as you want. There is a utility to join the voice sets, song files and a bit of text into one file. This can then be packed with Pock for to save heaps of disk space and played with the player program. If you're into using Quartet then these could turn you a little green Listen to too much of this kind of thing and you'll never be able to tolerate a chip tune ever again Groovy stuff

STF Rating: 52%

SONIC VIOLENCE DEMO NIGHTSHIFT

DISK DEMO 170

A music demo featuring the work of Sonic Violence from the album Transfision, It's called industrial music or something equally er, interesting and it involves hitting things rather hard and making lots of loud noises. There are three fairly long samples

and a few piccies and credits. The type of music is a bit of an acquired taste perhaps you'll like it if you're from an institution Really, though, it's perfect if

you really want to annoy someone older than you or if you're feeling particularly psychotic. Not so much entertainment as an experience and not one you're probably going to want to repeat too often

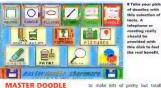
STF Rating: 33%





II There are the people rusponsible for the noises com ing from your onitor dur-Ing the Sonio Violence demo.

out appropristely if you abould over meet them



V1.3 FLOPPYSHOP

DISK EDU 3554C

A Shareware selection of programs enabling you to doodle to your heart's content - there's the chance to write on the screen in any colour and in any direction you choose, which could be good for creating crosswords, then there's the chance

telephone or meeting really should be provided with this disk to feel the real honefet.

to make lots of pretty but totally meaningless pictures out of lines with snots of various colours

Choose pictures from a readymade selection to create your own scenes and generally fiddle about with the controls - the only faintly educational bit is where you get the chance to learn about the RGB sliders and the effect it has on the end shade in the "colours" section

STF Rating: 62%

TALKING IUMBLE AND ALPHABET MONKEY GOODMANS

DISK GD 1957

Two simple alphabet games to familrarise you with the order of the alphabet and the layout of the keyboard. Talking lumble is a bit like one of those plastic sliding puzzle games - you get the alphabet, jumble it up and then, by clicking on different let-

ters, put it back in the right order. If you can't remember how it goes, you can ask the program to say the alphabet for you - the blocks flash as they speak. Alphobet Monkey is a plcture of a monkey who invites you to press a key - when you do he tells you what letter it is. Could be good to help you improve your typing skills. Both puzzles run in mono with the help a demo of the mono emulator Mosulator

STF Rating: 55%

A simple proorner with some nifty sampled bits - just an excuse to see that the ST can come perfectly well with them Shame the graphics weren't done by



WORLDWIDE SHAREWARE SUPPLIES

Goodman International are now one of the longest established ST libraries in the World. For over seven years we have supplied users, (and other libraries), worldwide, with the very best of ST Public Domain and Shareware.

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UTILITIES

FORMATTER'S COLLECTION



■ Every major PD and Shareware formatter is represented in the Formatter's Collection - the shall monu program provides a simple point and click interface enabling you to easily access each program on the disk

So you think that the built-in formatting routine on your 5T s good enough for you? Well, plenty of programmers don't think so, and have written their own formatters to give you extra options over and above the standard 80 tracks and nine sectors provided by the ST's Deskton routine

This disk uses a shell program enabling you to run any of the 14 formatters, two disk copiers, virus faller, document reader or any other program you choose. Extra features of the formatters include PCcompability, extended formats, the ability to fornat disks an both drives simultaneously and format disks as a bothory of the simultaneously and format disks as a bothory of the simultaneously.

STF Rating: 82%

EDITH

FLOPPYSHOP DISK WRD3727



Bimple use of function keys, Desktop icons and drop-down menus in the text window means that Edith on he mastered by overvone.

Everyone needs a word processor or text editor at some time, even if it's part to dash off that quick think you letter for your Christmas present from Conny A near how buth text editor called £diff cones with all your basic word processing needs, with all the functions you would expect to see in a full program. Excellent use of C&M conservation and use it. It's Sharevare and well were the congram and use it. It's Sharevare and well with the EIO registration few, which is refundable if you buy the professional version of the program that's going to be nelessed this mouth.

STF Rating: 73%

DC SEA

GOODMANS INTERNATIONAL DISK GD1962



E DC SEA only has nine options available but these should cater for all your file compression problems, just click on the file type to convert and hit the Go button.

Bulletin board files, Cover Disk programs and PD fibrary files now usually use file compression to cram more info into a smaller space. This is fine as long as you can decompress the files so you can get to the software in them

If you are given compressed files and you cannot extract them it can be very firstrating, DC 55A is a handy utility that converts the four major ST archive types into self-extracting files, and does it very well too. The archive types covered are ARC, LZM, ZP and ZOO files, DC 55A can also conversell-extracting files back to standard archives. A must for every serious utilitizant.

STF Rating: 77%

MICRO EMACS 3.11

DISK WRD3726



Micro EMACS is a professional standard text editor written by programmers for programmer just look at all of the search options evailable. Good quality stuff, but a bit specialised.

Moro BMACS is a text editor designed specifically with the C programmer in mult, it is ideal for generating C code in ASCII format to be imported into example of the compared of the code of the code

SIF RACIN

CIA WORLD FACTBOOK

TUMBLEVANE

DISK EAC 21



■ The 1991 CIA World Factbook, proviously produced exclusively for use by US government departments by the CIA. It's a huge mass of text and comes with the Rovenge document reader.

Because of the Freedom of Information Act in the US, previously restricted information is now freely available, including the CIA World Factbook Don't expect loads of secret stuff because they're not quite that liberated. What you do get is a four disk set of text files with details on every country in the world. There's loads of stuff about area and population right through to political and economic makeup. All very interesting and ideal if you want to quickly get a picture of a country for a project or something Unfortunately, most of the entries for the LIK seem to be missing, so start working on your conspiracy theories now. Also included is the number of communists in each country - handy if you're planning to destabilise a foreign government, not that anyone would, of course STF Boting: 74%

STF Rating: 74%

MASTER BROWSER GOODMANS INTERNATIONAL

DISK COTORS



mend, you can switch to the Position menu with a single mouse click to move to another area of the document. This enables you to quickly select large blocks for printing.

Yet another text-related disk, this one contains a clutch of file viewers enabling any file to be loaded and examined on-screen at leisure, whether it's a text file or a program file

The best of the bunch is Medize Rowser, with a wide variety of options including block functions, search, Mart Clipboard compatibility and a comprehensive printing septup. The use of popula menus is an excellent fouch, click on a line of text and the linear force of the comprehensive printing select force of the comprehensive printing selection of the comprehensiv

STF Rating: 61%

GAMES

SLAVER TUMBLEVANE DISK HST 2



All quests involve a few scraps and Slayer is no exception. You get a selection of strategies to try, dropping your weapon and scream ing for mercy ign't pag of them tough lot those adventurers

One of a new range of Licenceware, by an outfit calling themselves HeavenSent, Slayer is a text adventure - stop groaning out there, they're good file. Instead of typing in your commands you are presented with notions and you press a key to select them. This means it's very easy to play and you don't have to wrestle with the programmer's idea of English. It also makes the game very linear and more limiting than a normal text adventure. The plot is the usual middle Earth wibble, you are on a quest to beat up demons. The text is readable, entertaining and free from too many obvious grammar and spelling mistakes although the punctuation is a bit dodgy. Playable and surprisingly engrossing.

STF Rating: 76%

THE RETURN OF JUSSE BRIDGE more

DISK BU 114



The Return of Juace is good, and with a name like that, it's surprising. That's you the little blue class black. ing away at the door with your laser. you'll have someone's eye out with that if you're not careful.

A strainbfforward arcade game you control a little spaceship with the mission to retrieve pods. You have a laser in blast things and a shield to protect you from a limited number of pranos into the scenery or laser hits from the mevitable hostiles. It uses a combination of keyboard and joystick controls and moves smoothly. The gameplay is simple and frustrating as you nego trate tunnels and frantic aliens in search of the pods. The only real dis appointment is the flip screen scrolling which can get annoying as you slam into obstacles close to the edge of screens. Pretty chunky stuff

STF Rating: 74%

PILAD DISK G 155



■ Your ST-controlled opponents have won the bidding with three no trumps the dummy has revealed a well-stacked hand and your pipe has sone out. ST Bridge sets the nulsa racino annin

What a civilised pursuit of enjoyment this is, no horrid noises or alien scumbags to deal with. ST Bridge is a straightforward version of the card game. You're dealt the cards, bid as high as you dare and away you go it's all mouse controlled

You never play dummy, if your ST-controlled partner wins the bidding, you play their hand instead. The graphics are nothing spectacular and ace Bodge players might find it plays a rather tame game

There are also a few bugs that mar an otherwise engrossing match If you're into Bridge and can't rustle up three Bridge playing friends, then you're a bit sad really. This might help you feel less so.

STF Rating: 73%

DARKLYTE



Left, right, left, right, bash like crazy. Darklyte puts you in contro of an elite sound of drolds intent an denting another elite squad of droids, they're like that you know.

Darklyte is a small scale skirmish war game between two sets of droids fought over a chessboard-like arena You get four metal chaps with different attack and defensive capabilities. Each chap gets a number of moves per turn in which to clump forward and take swines at your opponents There are pieces of special equipment and various statistics to ponder. If you succeed in reducing an opposing droid to rubble you receive gold and experience, there are shops to buy new pear and other special squares Bash all the enemies and it's on to the next level - as long as your commander survived. The graphics are fairly good although the droids themselves are rather indistinct. There are a few samples to spice it up It's reminiscent of Space Crusade and provides useful entertainment if you like to take time over your allen-wasting

STF Rating: 67%

FALCON

FRACPLAY FLOPPYSHOP DISK ART 3699

It had to happen, fractals have arrived on your Falcon in glorious 256 colours. Fracploy uses the basic Mondelbrot set as well as Julia and L system fractals. One claim to fame is that you can adjust the colour bands after

you've generated the fractal so you can get a good spread of colours. very useful. Finished pictures can be saved in Neochrome, Degas Elite and IMG formats. As a honus it also nins on STs and TTs. This is the first of what will undoubtedly be a small flood of fractal programs for the Falcon showing what it can do. Really speedy fractals will come when pro-

rammers start to use the DSP chip for the calculations it's more than twice as fast as a maths coprocessor

STF Rating: 78%

Yes, it's those nutty maths pictures again. The plories of 256 colours brought home with Fracplay. There are planty of parameters and functions to play with and the results can be stunning

FALCON SLIDESHOWS FLOPPYSHOP

DISKS DEM 3700 TO 3708

A set of gob-smacking slideshows that blow a big fanfare for your Falcon's incredible true colour graphics. There are between three and five high quality pictures on each disk. They only work on an RGB monstor and use overscan and interlace to get as many pixels as possible on-screen at once

The graphics aren't alone, you get a funky soundtrack - a very high quality sample module. You need some amplification and decent speakers to get the most out of it. Pity it's the same module on most of the disks. The pictures were originally 24-bit, over half are created with POV and clever programming tricks are used to extend your Falcon's considerable palette. A brilliant look at what is possible - although you're likely to soon get bored, you can impress the hel-

out of family and friends. Pity the pictures aren't on high density disks, because they take up lots of space even when highly compacted STF Rating: 57%

II Phoar! Now that's proper! More colours than you can possibly count and then some more.

CASTLE CAPERS

DISK G 292



■ Nere you are in Castle Capers on one of those moving logs where you have to moonwalk on them so you don't fall off. Like similar heroes of the fearo, you haven't bothered to learn to swim.

The first ten screens of a 50-screen platform affair You control a blobby main character and try to get him to the other side of the screen. It's all pystick controlled; left, right and tump. There are the usual nasties floating about, one touch means you fly off the bottom of the screen and have to start again minus one of your five lives. Once you've figured out the path through each level it's just a question of using dexterity and timng. This is where it gets tricky, too tricky in fact. Even the first screen is frustratingly difficult, you need to be skilled or stubborn to make much progress. Not the most sparkling of romps but die-hard arcade fanatics may get a masochistic hit.

STF Rating: 58%

QUEST KNIGHT

DISK 1 33



■ Quant Knight is full of involved tactical decisions. Do you go left or right and exactly which white square do you click on? Phew! Luckly that's about the most comulex thing you have to handle.

Knights can't just sit around and take in the breeze - heroic and dangerous quests are their bread and butter Luckily a magical rose has been stolen and your party of four knights are picked for the recovery job. You guide your group along the paths until you find a dungeon and then around the dungeon map. There are ounch ups where you have no control, all you can do is watch your hit points go down and hope the nasties cop it first. The basic game format lacks imagination and involvement, that's putting it politely In actual fact it's utter twaddle, avoid it like the plaque.

STF Rating: 24%

Ups and downs



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THE BYTECRUNCHER'S **GUIDE TO ASSEMBLY**

In the last part of our assembly series, Tony Wagstaff shows you how to tackle sprites and how to keep up with your



f your ambition REGINNERS is to write a cracking shoot 'em-up, then you need to know one or two things about drawing sprites and reading the move-

ments of your invetical Sprites can be designed using your favourite art and graphics nackage and then incomprated into your programs. To understand how a sprite is drawn, let's first taxe a look at how the screen is

stored in memory n high resolution mode each pixel - those tiny dots that make up your screen - is either black or white, so each one can be represented by a one or a zero - this is easy when using binary numbers as they consist entirely of ones and noughts. In low res - with its 16 colours - we need to use the numbers nought to 15, requiring four bits since 1111 is binary for 15. However, these four bits are not stored next to each other in mempry but are woven. The first 16 bits of screen memory represent bit 0 of the first 16 pixels, the next 16 bits, bit 1, and so on

The numbers themselves refer to the colour register used for that pixel. Setting the palette changes the colours in the registers. If you change the palette the screen changes even though the numbers haven't - check out the diagram above that shows you how to get a pixel's colour

Mask over Sprites themselves come in all

manner of shapes and sizes, which creates problems when you come to draw them over a background picture, since the layout of the ST's memory makes it easier to draw rectangular blocks. The solution lies with a mask

A mask is like a silhouette. In high res, wherever a sprite's pixel is set to a foreground colour, the mask's pixels are set to the background colour, or pen aquaht. If on the other hand, a sprite's pixel is set to pen nought the mask's pixel is set to pen 15. The MASKER S listing on this month's Cover Disk creates a mask file for a collection of high res sprites stored in Deaes format. Try creating a mask file and then use your favourite picture viewer to check out the effect

Logical operation Having created a mask, you cannot

draw it straight to the screen, but you need to combine it with the background using a logical operator. Logical operators are similar to mathematical operators - plus, minus and so on - and like them are applied to two numbers

The first logical operation we need to consider is and. When two

numbers are and-ed together, each bit of one is compared with the other's corresponding bit If they are both set to one, the same bit in the result is set otherwise it is

addraga \$32E000 \$32EDD2 1001-1

cleared. So, binary 0101 and 1011 = 0001, since only bit nought is set in both numbers

We can now see what hap pens if we and the mask with the background picture. Since 15 is binary 1111, if we and this with a 4-bit number, the result is always the same as that number. On the other hand, and-ing a number with 0000 always results in 0000 anding the mask with the background draws the sprite's silhquette in the background colour, leaving a hole just the right shape for the sprite You can alter the SPRITE'S listing on this month's Cover Disk to see this effect for yourself

Once the mask is in place, we can draw our sprite, again using a logical operator, this time or When two numbers are or-ed, each bit in the result is cleared, or zero, if both of the corresponding bits in the numbers is zero.

When a number is or-ed with 0000, the result is the same as that number. Since the pixels of the sprite rectangle that we don't want to see are set to nought, or-ing these with the background leaves it unchanged. The pixels we do want to see are or-ed with the zeros created by the mask, so we only see the sprite. Clever, eh?

Reading the joystick exploits one of the most powerful features of the 68K processor, its ability to inter rupt a running program. There are many ways of generating such an interrupt - the end of a screen redraw known as a vertical blank. for instance can generate an interrupt. An interrupt handler is a routine designed to perform a specific task whenever a particular interrupt occurs. The routine is run automatically whenever the interrupt occurs

Such a handler can be used to read the lovstick. The Intelligent Keyboard, or IKBD, can be requested, using Boonout, to send what is called a joystick packet The handler, once installed, runs automatically whenever a packet request is made, and finds the packet itself in the address pointed to by a0

The second byte of the packet contains the joystick information, the first four bits are set if the stick is moved, the seventh f the fire button is pressed. The handier itself simply stores this information, which the main program can pick up and process at its leisure. Handlers should be as short as possible, and must restore any registers they after. The JOY S listing on the Cover Disk shows how it's all done

The sprites listing should give you enough information to begin writing your own games. Many programmers spend a lot of time developing ultra-fast sprite routines, and studying source code, like the STF_DEMO on Cover Disk 45 can pay rich dividends

That's all, folks!

That brings us neatly to the end of our assembly series. We trust you've enjoyed it and hope it has inspired you to produce some senous bytecrunchino programs of VOUL OWN ##

DRAWING ROUTINES

In the SPRITE.S listing, the draw ing is done using the Line-A Bit-Bit – or BIT Block Transfer – routine. The Line-A is a series of routines, rather like the VDI (in fact the VDI itself uses the Line-A routine). The BitBlt routine is called using this command:

and is used to move rectangular blocks of memory. It can also perform the logical operations

needed to draw the mask and sprite to screen. First a set of parameters needs to be initialised. These are stored at the blit label, the rtant ones being B_ND and more, the width and height of the source rectangle, or _______ the log ical operator, set to 01910101 for and 07070707 for or. \$_3003 and s vicor contain the coord nates of the source rectangle and can be used for animation purposes

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FOOTLOOSE AND Every scene has to have an independent sector, and the ST industry is no exception... FANCY FREE

here are the software houses - commercial companies releasing programs for profit There's the Public Domain - which specialises in software released just (for the hell of it. Floating around in the middle are the small independent programmers and distributors

There's all sorts of stuff out

there, from specialised applications and utilities to platform games. You can pick up the efforts of amateur and professional programmers alike Some of the programs are Shareware - you pick up the program from a PD library and you register with the author to receive the latest version and a manual Other programs are sold directly by the author or a small company. Although many of the programmers still have their day jobs, the quality of independentiy distributed programs can match that of full commercia. releases If you've written or distribute a program that you think deserves a look drop it in to us at -Indie Reviews, ST FORMAT, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 2BW



CRACK ART VERSION 1.36

PRICE: 30DM FROM: PUBLIC DOMAIN

BILL VERSION: DETLES ROTTGER AND JAN BORCHERS -SEE BOXOUT BELOW

Crack Art, one of the newest and best art packages available, has been updated. The latest version, like the previous one, is Shareware, A restricted demo version is available from the Public Domain libraries, but for the full blown program you need to register with the program's authors.

tion and needs 1MByte. It works in the same way as Degos Elite You switch between a screen packed with icons and your work screen where you do the artistic bit. There are all the usual functions with definable parameters and a host of less common ones. There are nine work

Crack Art works in low resolu-

screens and the range of file formats is most impressive including its own compressed format. It even converts medium and high resolution Degas screens, Spectrum 512s and GIFs to low resolution. There is an unrivalled range of block manipulation tools too. You can distort blocks in all sorts of ways including

perspective, bulge, tube and skew The name comes from the ability to crack into files and disks to, er, borrow pictures for inspiration. It has a comprehensive point function with dis-

vers for the HP 550C among others There are few things missing screen coordinates and a hot spot zoom function would be welcome additions. Support for animation is very limited. No art package has everything you could want but Crock

Art comes very close to achieving it. The original release of Crack Art was put out as Shareware in its final form and, unfortunately, people didn't bother to register it.

important to support the Shareware concept not only from the programmers' side but the users' side. If you don't pay the registration fee. you won't find good Shareware programs being released, so what's the gam?" Registration from the UK for Crack Art.



look at those options and features. You flip between this screen and the drawing screen with the right mouse button. There are keyboard shortcuts for most functions and double-clicking on some of the icons brings up a dialog box to sut the narameters

v1 only amounted to a handful even though it's the most popular Shareware art package

The rival programs like Deluxe Point are expensive in companson. The authors have obviously taken great pains over Crock Art and have created a wonderful program If you

are serious about your art, this comes highly recommended Cracking stuff

> # The range of special effects is unrivation; antiallesing, diffusion, dilation, and in this

case, one of the outline modes. Serious ole--mangling made easy.



I The Grack Art soom made - it has several magnifications and in very fast. All the functions in Crack Art are fast, slick and oose with professionalism.

How do I register?

receive a special code which is typed into the program and the restrictions of the demo version disappear. Send your 30 DM in the er to one of the follow

Jan Borchers W-3380 Gosla

Detlef Röttger W.3387 Vienen

VIDEO REPLAY 3

PRICE: £5 - CHEQUES PAYABLE TO P I SCOTT

FROM: MOVIE MEDIA CONTACT: 1 RYFLANDS PLACE KILGETTY, DYFED, WALES

MACHINE: ALL 1MBYTE STS

Video Replay is designed to load and play digitised animations created with VIDI ST or the SIIIcon Animation Machine (SAM) and combine the animation with sound samples to create mini

movies or demos. A PD program is included so you can distribute your masterpieces. and you can grab frames directly into Video Replay if you have VIDI ST The

E The Silver Surfer swoops into the

camera white a dodgy sound sample

ehouts "He's doed, Jim." "But that's



Video Replay uses large friendly menus and looks very similar to the software supplied with VideoMaster, a quarter screen video display to the left with the sound sample window running along the base of your screen. Above the video display there are the four main options of Video Replay Disk. Visual, Audio and VIDI ST, these options access the various sub-

menus controlling the program Sound samples must be in SPL format and are restricted to four sample speeds, 5KHz, 7KHz, 10KHz and 15KHz. STE DMA samples are not

catered for, but you can expand or shrink samples, convert them to a different sample rate and save them to disk. Samples can also be filtered and have their high bit altered so AVR format samples can be used

The Visual menu enables you to cut and paste frames. insert a delay to slow down the playback speed and to dither the animation into

eight grevscale shades. Using the program is very

easy, everything is performed by

But why did he do it?

Version 2.0 of Video Replay is available from most PD libraries and is Shareware, but version 3 is only allable direct from the author Simon Scott, and costs just £5. Simon wrote Video Replay for his own use. Other people with VIDI ST pressed an interest in the program he decided to release it as Share-

ware. Simon uses GFA Basic 3.5 to write his software because he got it free from ST FORMAT Cover Disk 35 and because it is more compatible ross the differing versions of the ST operating system than other languages. Simon also reckons that GFA a more workman-like language and easier to learn.



trappedi

think that

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very well,

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80.00

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zee, Video Rentay is rominiscent -4 10dan Manter to al bee shoot iunt as nasw to use The the ten of the conec soness the

pointing and clicking on the menu ontions with your mouse Because VIDI ST animations are stored as a series of sequential Degas or Neochrome frames you can create

animations by using pictures you have drawn yourself in your favourite paint program Remember, all the picture files have to have the same name and end with the frame number, so the first

picture could be called TESTOO PI1, the second TESTO1 PIT and so on

A couple of small points detract from the program VIDI 57 animations can only be loaded from floopy disk drive A and the screen sometimes corrupts after loading animations, Apart from these minor quibbles it works very well and is



PRICE: £3 95 FROM: GOODMANS CONTACT: = 0782 335650

If you haven't played Space Monsters you don't know what terror is, probably. Monsters coming after you faster and faster, you digging holes to bury them in. you frantically bashing them on the head in the hope that they'll dle instead of turning back into speedy green monsters or even speedler blue ones, failing and then dying a horribly loud and frightening death... gulp!

And that's about it really Your aim is to rid the platform land which is completely made up of lad8 You're

ders and walls - of the nasty creatures. You do this by digging holes with your handy trowel and waiting for the monsters to fall in. When they're trapped you have to bash 'em

anly have around on the edge of the hale or lunt wait patiently for death

over the head by pushing up on your joystick and pressing <Fire> until the wall's filled in or until they come to life again transformed into a much frisker and more determined to kill vou creature

fairly sparse there's none of that irrilating chip music, just appropriate poises of your trowel hitting walls and that awful noise of fear when it looks like you're going to die

It's a version of an arcade game. The author, Darren Itheli, decided to write it more for fun than anything else "I'd seen vertions on other machines and reaised it wasn't available for the ST, so I thought I'd write one. I had it lying about for ages, then I heard of Goodman's Micromagic label and decided to send it in "

Space Mansters is a good little game for a quick waggle - you need to use your brain to work out where the best place is to dig holes without cutting yourself off, you need to be quick so that when a creature falls in you get there in time to kill him and also fast enough to run if there's no other aption open











FEEDBACK

Times are changing in the ST world... so, why not let us know how you feel about the situation?



Caring, sharing Shareware? After Jeff Minter's

resounding success with his two games Llamatron and Revenge of the Mutant Camels, you were only too eager to

print in your mag the greatness and fairness of Shareware As I am sure you are aware,

there is another side to this story we never hear about the authors who get very little response in terms of registrations - and that may be because they are too numerous to mention. The truth is painful, but the truth is that the ST is practically dead as far as commercial names are concerned, with software companies and retailing stores leaving the ST without a second thought and this means that Shareware is the way forward in ST games. Take the case of Martin Brownlow, an esteemed and, dare I say it, skilled programmer, Grav 2 was given away on an STF

Cover Disk a few months back and no one can deny that it is excellent But how did Martin do with this game? A year after its initial release, he has received a measly 30 registrations - that is, 30 from over 60 000 STF readers

I know a lot of people think that you can't trust these authors and you'll probably never receive your promised registration pack, I can tell you, from my own experience, that these authors care about their registrees and take orde in the speed and care with which they deal with questions and pleas. Bon Nussey

London NWS

stf: You're quite right about people not bothering to register Sherewere programs with the author - in the Indies section starting on page 100 you can see that the authors of Crack Art 2 came across a similar apathy when they released the first version of the program so they've taken steps to encourage people to

register by making only a demoversion of the program freely sysilable in the Public Domain.

If people don't bother to reaister then programmers aren't going to be encouraged to con-

tinua producino quality software and everybody loses out. Register

*We never hear about authors who get very little response -

perhaps they are too numerous to mention*

ina programs benefits everyone and if you want to see more Sharewere releases, I suggest you get your cheque books out and register that program you've been using.

However, I must disagree with you when you say that in commercial games terms the ST is

dead. This is simply not true - if anything the ST scene is undergoing a revival. Just look at the news story on page 7 about the incredible sales of Street Fighter 2. It just goes to show that great games do sell brilliantly.

Gissa job

I'm writing to ask you if you would let me do reviews for your magazine. I am a young lad of 13 years of age and I am mad on computers (aren't all boys of this age?) I have been reading your magazine for ages and I really enjoy your reviews, blots and tine, I'm good at reviews because at my school our class was doing an article for our own made-up newspaper and I decided that I would do a raview on a computer game. Since it was around Comic Relief I decided to do Sieepwaiker and when I had finished it my teacher said: "You want to be a reporter when you grow up." So this gave me an idea th

I'll convert Monkey Island 2 - I'll do it for free and you can have all the rights..."









and the second







to write into you asking for a job The good thing for you is that I don't want to be paid because I want to do it for pleasure. Please consider this offer

Nicholas O'Donnell Nottingham

mtf: Nicholas, and everyone else who writes in to us wanting to review games, thank you for your offer but we have plenty of writers on the team who can write all the reviews we'll ever need. Your best het. If you want to be a writer for a magazine like this one, is to work really hard and get all the qualifications you can so that you'll impress notential employers, get involved in as many writing projects as possible - school and college newspapers are good places to start - read loads and loads of magazines and newspapers so you can get an idea of the hundreds of different ways of writing what is basically the same thing, If you went to specialise in a particular field, get to know absolutely everything you can about it, that'll help you no end And when you write for job applications, make sure you'll impress the person you're writing to with your knowledge of their specialised subject. Don't, for example, write to an ST magazine saying you went to write for them citing your review of Sleepwalker that you wrote around Comic Relief time as you wouldn't have been able to play it on the ST because it hadn't come out then. Oh ves. and it's not obligatory to believe everything your teachers tell you

Monochrome mania

Why is there seemingly such a shortage of games and Cover Disk mater al generally for us "serious" ST users - the ones with monochrome manitars? I spend most of my time making MIDI music and dabbling in desktop publishing but occasionally I like to play the odd game. Just simple games, usually, not the type that you need to have studied at postgraduate level to understand! There must be some

Great debates - where Atari should go from here

their preduct line. The company tion to so many machines The STFM, STR, TT, Lynx and PC ld all be dropped. The Falcon030 would become the company's been machine and, the eld ST case. To replace the TT would be a Falcon040, with the high resolution capability of TT. The 68040 ld be uppredable to a 64 and run at 25MHz at the t least The Falcon040 would u the new case to distinguish it PC and Mac compati ness is wer." Chances are, se thinking it was a PC would be pleasantly surprised.

Replacing the Lynx by their sensole, Atari weuld have a chance to compete in the g. The 64-bit me d have instant appeal to vare developers and gen r Shields Glasgew

writers out there who enjoy making a mono game look good on the screen and play well too Carolyn Johns

Maramhum Australia

atf: There are actually quite a few mono games around, but the general lack of them can be explained by the fact that while not everyone has a mono monitor, most people have colour TVs so they can easily load up any low or medium resolution name in the commercial sector you could try raiding Silmarils' selection - they've created games like Transarctica, Ishar (1 and 2), Bunny Bricks, Storm Master to

stf: You're a bit sheed of you time, I reckon – yeu've got son interesting ideas in there, son of which I'm sure will actu their PC any more; they've only STFM (although there just a cobbling toge ports which would otherwise

·They should be advertised as 'PC compatible' and in small print 'separate card required'"

have been dumped); STE produc tion is only expected to last another two to three years hav ing sarmed a stay of execution ior this year and the US Lynx ction is reported as deing very the TT, Felcon and Jaguar. Dave ent of the Falcon family is ely to happen but it would be ry misloading (and sure to be ked up on by the Advertising Standards Authority as such) to

advertise it as PC and Mac of patible without also include would be the p you found ide't run any of your PC soft avan more meney. As rec the casing, you seem to have hit the sail on the head. As reported in the news section starting on page 7, it now seems un at there is to be a new case for the Falcon030 - accord Sob Stradie Director of Com nications at Atari US, the casin will develop in pretty much the when there is a significantly her spec for the machine, like when the Mega ST came out, the ng is likely to change.

hile the Jeguer certainly is incredible mechine, it is highly unlikely to be sale to sell itself. Part of the task of adverug lo to orosto awareness in le - because if you don't know semathing axiats, you're never geing to decide you as ally need it. This has to be pa ularly important in the con-market that's presently de neted by Sege and Nintendo -everybody's heard of them even if they don't want to buy a con sols and this recognition fais very important.

In mono, Mankey Island from US Gold and the flight sim ProFlight from HiSoft also run in mono There are even more games in the Public Domain where commercial viability doesn't matter so much -

name but a few - all of which run

"Most people have colour TVs so they can easily load any low resolution game"



I Bunny Bricks sounded quite entertaining before it came out, but ended up rather like a plorified version of Breakaut

check out the individual library catalogues for details - you'll find delights such as versions of Tetris and heaps of text adventures - and there are even compilation disks full of mono games.







review INDIO 2 1950 which functions reasonably well in mana atthough some of the detail is

mass of darkness. That age-old guestion

To add to your excellent reviews you could add a bit that tells you what the ST version is like compared to Amiga or PC versions so we can go up to Amiga fans and say "that game's better on my machine than yours."

Mysteriously anonymous Type and Wear

sef: Er, we trust that you always say that anyway - we certainly do!

Golfing mad

I have just started the MicroProse Users' Golfing Society for players of MicroProse Golf and wondered if anyone would be interested in joining. I have permission from MicroProse to use their name and they have agreed to donate a trophy for the national winner. It is only open at this stage to scratch players so that everybody compates at one level.

Providing I get enough support I propose to pun a regional competition over 36 holes and the final stage over 72 holes. If anyone wants further information, please send an SAE to me at the address below and I will send you details of the club and a registration form.

Andy Jarvis MUGS 9 Portland Drive. Muneaton. Warks CV10 9HZ

stf: Thanks for that, Andy sounds like a great idea...

Who needs packaging anyway?

The next logical step in a perfect world, following the decrease in price of the STFM, would be for the software houses to follow suit and slash the exorbitant prices they charge for their products. I understand that producing each game must have incredible overheads - I mean that it must cost the world to produce all that lovely packaging. However, I do have a small suggestion for the software houses, try making the boxes to fit the game contained. You never know, it may just reduce those production costs a little.

M Phillips Cordiff

stf: Software houses deliberately put games into large boxes so that you feel you're getting lots of value for money. Take, for example, the haves that hudget games traditionally have appeared in - those small square things with a small leaflet inside. You somehow never feel that the game's actually going to

he any annd - or at least it's certainly not going to be mould-breaking stuff. Compare that to the new spree of mid-priced games that are coming on to the market from peoole like US Gold's Kixx XL label. These games are packaged in big shiny boxes so that they look and feel like quality games and at the end of the day they make you feel more positive about the gameplay even before you load it up.

Crary about music

I have been the very proud owner of an STEM for over eight years and not once have I been unfaithful and looked at that other machine whose name escapes me. My allegiance, however, may be swayed by the mighty thunder-clapping appearance of the Falcon. One of my passions is music, especially tracker music using TCB Tracker and Noisetracker. I have a fairly extensive collection of music for both programs - many of which I have composed myself. I am not a professional musician - just an Atari music genius and my main concern is being able to compose music on the Falcon. I have never seen a MIDI setup, let alone used one because it looks rather complicated - although I'd hardly describe myself as a technophobe. Anyway, I'd like to know whether anyone has any plans for producing any Tracker programs for the Falcon. Les Revner

Suffall

mes: We haven't heard about any commercial tracker programs being created for the Falcon - the only thing we've come across so fer is the Public Domain program Pro-Tracker Replay which we gave an STF Rating of 65% in last month's PD section - it enables you to play any of your modules that you created on your ST. Watch out for any more news of such programs in the pages of STF.

If you're interested in progressing beyond tracker music then you ought to check out last month's issue of ST FORMAT where we showed you how to get started in making your own music using a MIDI setup - it's much easier and less daunting than you think! For more details on all this you need last month's STF - turn to page 52 to order your copy now.

If you've got anything you would like to share with us and 60,000-odd other ST enthusiasts, address your letters to Paula Richards, The Editor, Feedback, ST FORMAT, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 2BW you could even win some cash!

ESSENTIAL CONTACTS

Need to find that number of that company but lost the reference? Look no further... Telephone . Company

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Telephone

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Following this month's raytracing feature you should be exploding with creativity let's see what you can do...

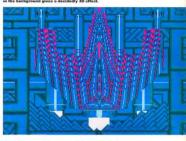
his month we've got two contrasting pictures for you to gawp at - you can find more details about

each pic in the captions below them. One's an almost photographic replica of an album cover using a very limited palette JEAN MICHEL JAARE

and the other, while also using a limited range of colours, produces a totally different abstract effect. If you think you can do any better, send in your

submissions on a disk together with all the intermediary stages and full instructions, to Pixel Painting. ST FORMAT, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 2BW.

This abstract butterfly-like image comes from Ed Sheppard of Powys Unfortunately, he didn't give us any indication of how he created it - but it looks as if it was made with the pattern concretor Kosmic that we cave away on Cover Disk 32. He's chosen an effective contrasting palette and the shading in the background gives a decidedly 3D effect.



Il Creating a face in shades of grey is an unusual idea but one which works very wall, as she here by Celln Thomas of Glasgow. Celin worked mostly in the Zoom mode of Deluxe Paint in this copy of The Essential album cover. The shading and the highlights look really good, adding to the realistic appearance of Jarre. It's all very effective and took around 30 hours to cornelate.

THESE ARE THE PEOPLE TO BLAME FOR THIS ISSUE...

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